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New tough steps after violent all-Arab strike

Israeli Arab 'peace strike' turns violent

The nationwide strike by Israeli Arabs in solidarity with residents of the territories was marred by violence yesterday as stone-throwing youths ignored calls by strike organizers to keep the peace. In Nazareth and Umm el-Fahm rioters clashed with police and Border Police who responded with teargas and water cannons. In an unprecedented display of solidarity with their fellow-Arabs, Negev Beduin also demonstrated in a number of townships. Eleven policemen were reported injured when they dispersed a crowd of 3,000 demonstrators who blocked the Wadi Ara highway near Umm el-Fahm. Three of those injured were still in the Afeka hospital last night.

In Nazareth, six policemen were slightly injured when an estimated 4,000 youths went on the rampage through the streets of the city. Organizers of what they called a "Day of Peace" expressed disappointment that violence had erupted in some of the demonstrations.

Police arrested 10 demonstrators in Jaffa, suspected of throwing stones at passing vehicles and burning tyres in the streets. A gang of youths smashed the windshield of a Mercedes car and tried to set it alight. One policeman was slightly injured in the afternoon when demonstrators gathered in the streets. Several more arrests were made.

In Haifa police dispersed an illegal demonstration by activists of the Committee against the Occupation. According to the local labour council, some 10,000 of the 12,000 Arabs from Israel and the territories who normally work in Haifa stayed away from work yesterday, causing disruptions in the building sector and in garages.

Close coordination between Arab local authorities and police kept a demonstration of 300 people in Tira, as well as incidents of tyre-burning and arrests in Taibe and Kfar Kassem, from getting out of control during yesterday's strike.

But Arab leaders in the Triangle expressed fears that the violent unrest in the territories would "spread" further inside Arab-Israeli communities if the Palestinian problem is not tackled seriously.

"It's not that remote. I don't want what's happening in the West Bank and in Gaza to spread to the Arab-Israelis," said Kfar Kassem Mayor Abdul Rahim Aisa. "If this thing spreads and grows, no one will be able to control it."

Officials in Tira, noting the contrast between the largely peaceful demonstrations in their villages and the violence in the territories, stressed that the absence of police presence helped keep the area quiet.

Mithkal Samara, a member of Tira's strike committee, said he and other men were patrolling the village from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. to ensure that order was maintained.

"As long as the police don't enter the town there won't be any trouble," observed Samara as hundreds of high school youths circled the village crying "God is Great" and "with blood and spirit we will redeem the martyrs" shortly after noon.

The crowd was dispersed by strike committee officials after complaints by Tira residents that youths were loitering.

In Taibe, strike committee officials quickly dispersed youthful protesters who ignited three tyres near the mosque around noon.

In Kfar Kassem, two police vans entered the town to arrest two youths suspected of "collecting" tyres to ignite. Local council head Abdul Khamin Aisa sent out a crew of city officials to investigate the incident and later obtained police assurances that the youths would be released.

Strike committee members repressed (Continued on Page 2, Col. 3)



The strike in Nazareth yesterday, where Arab residents and Border Police clashed. Report page 4. (Narkiewicz/Media)

Riots sweep across Green Line

A massive wave of violent protests surged across the Green Line yesterday as Israeli Arabs joined Palestinians from the territories in a general strike in which three people died, many were wounded, and more than 200 were arrested.

The strike among Arab Israelis followed nearly two weeks of unrest in the territories, and showed identification with the Palestinians' struggle on the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Demonstrations in Jaffa, Lod and the generally tranquil village of Abu Ghosh astonished Israelis who hadn't seen violence in those communities since the establishment of the state in 1948.

The unrest in the very heart of Israel has brought the territories' turmoil into the backyards of Jewish homes.

Yesterday's disturbances across the Green Line were also a milestone in the 20-year process of renewing the links between Arab-Israelis and Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza and Golan Heights.

Other precedents were set during yesterday's events:

Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij cancelled plans for his annual Christmas Eve reception for the first time in his 16-year tenure as mayor.

The Afeka-Hadera road in Wadi Ara, in the heart of Israeli territory, was blocked by demonstrators for nearly two hours yesterday.

The Negev Beduin, who generally shun the political activities of the Arab municipalities in the North, joined yesterday's general strike, set up roadblocks in Rahat, and stoned the police, sparking the arrest of 11.

The Arab villages surrounding Jerusalem and straddling the 1967 border were centres for waves of violent disturbances, including the erection of roadblocks and the stoning of the main Jerusalem-Jericho road.

Yesterday's strike also was more total than either the strike protesting the 1982 Sabra and Shatila massacre or the 1976 Land Day demonstrations, the two occasions in the past in which Palestinians and Israeli Arabs have joined forces. This was particularly evident in the absence of 250,000 Israeli Arabs and Palestinians from workplaces inside Israel, resulting in a drop in production.

Kach men provoke riot in village

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Reporter

SHFARAM — Eight policemen were injured, one of them seriously during rioting here last night trying to rescue Kach supporters who had secretly entered the old synagogue in this mixed Moslem and Christian Arab township.

Within minutes of their arrival a crowd of several hundred surrounded the synagogue and hurled stones at the building in an attempt to force those inside to come out. Police in Shfaram forced their way through the crowd and managed to rescue the Kach supporters.

Police reinforcements were rushed to the scene and the demonstrators were urged to disperse. When they refused, police opened fire with teargas canisters.

Police said three demonstrators, who were also injured, were arrested. The Kahane supporters were later taken away for questioning.

Shfaram mayor Ibrahim Nimr Hussein said it was a clear case of provocation.

"When I went towards them, accompanied by a police officer, to try to get them to leave peacefully while offering them protection, one of the Kach members fired his pistol in the air," said Hussein. "There was no trouble in Shfaram throughout the course of the general strike until the Kach supporters came here and deliberately provoked a riot."

Carrot and stick approach is being considered

By ELAINE RUTH FLETCHER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The government is weighing a series of carrot-and-stick measures, including political punishment and financial rewards, designed to discourage Arab municipalities from taking more actions like yesterday's strike.

Among these, the government may refuse to have any further dealings with the committee of Arab mayors that organized the strike. This would be a sign of displeasure with the group's growing involvement in national political issues, Rami Mito, deputy minister for Arab affairs, warned yesterday.

"The raising of PLO flags, stone throwing, and blocking roads demand serious thoughts about the future," said Mito.

Mito again denounced the Knesset members' participation in the strike and the strike's "identification with a terror organization (PLO) that wants to destroy the state of Israel."

Other sources said that Communist-led municipalities may begin to feel the government's wrath in their pocketbooks. Extra financial aid may be awarded to municipalities that have a "moderate" — meaning non-Communist — political leadership, the sources said.

Amos Gilboa, Mito's senior adviser, said Mito's office was weighing a whole series of measures. Though he declined to give details, he conceded that the basic thrust would be to reward Arab municipalities perceived as moderate, while turning a cold shoulder to the "extremists."

But he denied reports that the government would stop giving financial aid to municipalities that participated in the strike.

"That's nonsense," he said.

Gilboa also noted that while the government has long refused to extend formal recognition to the national committee of Arab mayors, it has continued to meet with the group informally. But that, too, may cease following yesterday's strike.

Gilboa charged that the strike by Arab municipalities had sparked

Displeasure at Israel's use of 'lethal force'

U.S. warns citizens to be careful about visits to Israel

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON — The U.S. yesterday pointedly underlined its mounting displeasure with Israel's continued use of lethal force in trying to quell disturbances in East Jerusalem, Gaza and the West Bank, by reissuing a travel advisory warning Americans to be careful when visiting Israel and the territories.

At the same time, the U.S. was last night expected to abstain on a UN Security Council resolution condemning Israel for the latest wave of violence in the territories. The council was scheduled to vote on the measure after midnight Israel time.

At yesterday's State Department news briefing, spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley read a carefully worded statement. "We continue to be deeply grieved by the violence that has resulted in loss of life and injury in the West Bank, Gaza, and East Jerusalem," she said. "We share the concern of people everywhere that this violence, and the deaths and injuries resulting from it, magnify the divisions between Israelis and Palestinians."

"We urge and hope that both sides will exercise restraint. The high level of frustration points out the need to maintain efforts to bring about a comprehensive peace that will satisfy the legitimate aspirations for peace and security by all the peoples of the region."

After reading her opening statement, Oakley recalled that a travel advisory for Jerusalem and the West Bank has been in effect since March 29, 1982. "American citizens planning visits outside Jerusalem or to sites on the West Bank and Gaza should be aware that conditions affecting the safety of travellers can change with little warning," the advisory says.

Oakley announced the telephone numbers of the U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem and the embassy in Tel Aviv, for prospective travellers to the region. She also gave the phone number of a special desk at the State Department for Americans thinking about travelling to Israel.

She said the U.S. has been in direct touch with the highest officials in Israel, "and they assure us that they are doing everything possible to avoid further casualties."

The U.S. has also remained in contact with various Palestinians in the territories, she added.

U.S. officials said they have been urging Israel for more than a year to follow the lead of Japan, South Korea and other countries in establishing a specially trained riot control unit that would not use lethal force. They said that inexperienced and nervous Israeli troops — even if equipped with tear-gas and rubber bullets — are too quick to assume that they are in serious danger and then respond by unleashing their weapons. This, the Americans insisted, exacerbated the tensions.

This was the basic U.S. message to Defence Minister Rabin during his visit to Washington last week. In response, Rabin simply insisted that

Israel does not have the necessary manpower or resources to create that kind of riot control unit.

This Israeli position, U.S. officials said, is totally unacceptable to Washington. The announcement of the travel advisory was designed, in part, to underline that American anger, they said. But they also noted that the U.S. was genuinely concerned about the safety of its citizens.

The travel advisory, coming on the eve of Christmas and an expected influx of tourists, was seen by Israeli officials as very damaging to Israel's tourism industry.

The same U.S. message was conveyed yesterday by U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering during a meeting in Jerusalem with Prime Minister Shamir.

Even Israel's strongest supporters in the Jewish community and on Capitol Hill have expressed their mounting concern. Privately, they have passed along numerous messages to the Israeli leadership asking that something be done to end the tension.

One U.S. official said the tensions of recent days have underlined the urgent need to get genuine peace negotiations off the ground. "We have to resolve the root causes," he said. "The current situation is untenable."

But he acknowledged that the U.S. did not have any fresh diplomatic initiative in mind for the time being.

Three Palestinians die and 16 are wounded

By JOEL GREENBERG,
ANDY COURT
and BRADLEY BURSTON
Jerusalem Post Reporters

The IDF is planning to institute tough measures following yesterday's heavy rioting in the West Bank, in which troops killed three Palestinians and wounded 16 during a general strike that paralyzed the area.

A top military source said the army will revert to such measures as administrative detention and deportation of activists believed to be behind the disturbances. More troops will be sent to the territories, and they will be instructed to react more swiftly and firmly against protesters.

Senior military personnel were summoned last night to the Central Command, apparently to discuss the new measures.

The source said the IDF's restraint in recent days had apparently been interpreted as weakness, and the impression had been created that the army might let up to avoid negative publicity and international condemnation.

"We are planning to make clear to the (Palestinian) public, through actions, that we cannot tolerate disturbances and disruptions of the whole fabric of daily life. This cannot happen again."

The source added that despite the new measures, troops would be under the same orders regarding behaviour and opening fire, and punishment would be selective. The measures were meant to demonstrate that "it is impossible to reach a (political) settlement while the area is rioting," and to frustrate attempts to show that Israel is unable to hold on to the territories.

Yesterday's violence erupted as life came to a standstill throughout the West Bank in coordination with a general strike by Israeli Arabs. Businesses and schools were closed, public transportation was suspended and streets in major cities were deserted in the most extensive shutdown since 1967. Roads were blocked with rocks and burning tyres, and cars slowing down at obstacles were pelted with stones.

In Jenin, rioters attacked a group of Border Police, hurling about 20 petrol bombs at the force, the

source said. The police opened fire after shouting warnings and after non-lethal means failed to repel the mob, he said.

Yusuf Muhammad Ar'awi, 25, was killed, and eight people were wounded, one in the head. The source said that the seriously wounded man was apparently one of the persons who hurled the petrol bombs.

In Tubas, a crack IDF force was caught in a "major riot" and two soldiers were injured, including the force commander. When tear gas and rubber bullets proved ineffective, the soldiers opened fire, killing two men and wounding one, the source said. The men killed were identified as Basil Saftaweh, 18, and Nazek Saftaweh, 22.

Troops also opened fire at the Far'a refugee camp when rioters tried to attack the entrance to the neighbouring Far'a jail. Four people were wounded.

Another Palestinian was wounded in Kalkiya when troops opened fire after a petrol bomb was hurled at them. A curfew was clamped on the town. A protester was shot and wounded in Kabatiya.

In Bethlehem, Mayor Elias Freij, bowing to local pressure, announced that he would cancel his annual Christmas reception to which the prime minister and top Israeli officials are traditionally invited. Freij said he made the move in response to the situation in the territories, which he called "the worst in 20 years."

"We can't have a cocktail party in such a tense situation," he said.

Freij added that religious processions and services in the town would be held according to protocol.

The centre of Bethlehem was reported closed off by rock barriers, and rioters at the neighbouring Dehaishe refugee camp set fire to the local police station, stoned cars, and barricaded the Jerusalem-Hebron highway. A curfew was clamped on the camp for five hours.

Three other refugee camps were also put under curfew following similar disturbances.

There were numerous disturbances in Jerusalem yesterday, but police said that most of the incidents

(Continued on back page)

Shamir says nothing new in unrest; no cause for concern

Downplaying the significance and seriousness of the past fortnight's riots, Prime Minister Shamir said last night that there was "nothing new" in the wave of unrest sweeping East Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza.

"I believe that we have no cause for concern," Shamir told an invited group of new immigrants at a Hanukkah candle lighting ceremony at his office in Jerusalem.

Shamir said that the riots should not make the nation downhearted. "We have overcome similar situations in the past," he said.

He drew a comparison with the courage of the Hasmoneans whose historic victory over the Greeks is celebrated on Hanukkah. "At this juncture, the nation is still fighting as it did for centuries, to protect its freedom and to ensure the survival of its cultural heritage," he said.

The prime minister yesterday also urged the U.S. to veto the resolution on the situation in the territories, which was to be voted on in the UN Security Council after midnight.

Israel time.

"We think that if the U.S. does not reject the condemnatory motion in an explicit and absolute way, this will encourage, without a doubt, extremist elements active in our region to disturb the peace and injure Israel," Shamir said in response to a question at the Jean Kirkpatrick Forum at Tel Aviv University.

Kirkpatrick herself echoed the prime minister's remarks, telling reporters that if she were still U.S. ambassador to the UN, she would oppose a one-sided resolution.

In his lecture, Shamir defended the security forces' role in putting down the current unrest in the territories, saying that "security and order come before considerations about [presenting] a pretty image."

Shamir summarily swept aside a proposal by Likud MK Haim Kaufman to reinstate military government in the territories, saying: "I do not think that Israel can go backwards." He added that the cabinet would not even discuss the matter.

Security Council postpones vote

By WALTER RUBY
UNITED NATIONS — The Security Council decided late yesterday to postpone until Wednesday voting on a resolution censuring Israeli action in the occupied territories.

Member nations of the council were unable to agree on the wording of the resolution, with the Soviet Union and other countries said to be

demanding that the resolution "condemn" Israeli action in the territories, while the U.S. held out for language "strongly deploring" Israeli action.

The U.S. was expected to abstain on the resolution "strongly deploring" Israel, thereby allowing it to pass. A negative American vote would constitute a veto.

Disturbances likely to boost idea Hussein in Moscow 'to talk about ME peace parley'

MOSCOW (AFP) — King Hussein arrived here yesterday for his first official visit to the Soviet Union in five years.

Hussein, who was met at the airport by President Gromyko, is expected to discuss the prospects for a Middle East peace conference with his hosts.

Western diplomatic sources said that the disturbances in the West

Bank and Gaza were likely to give weight to a joint Soviet-Jordanian call for an international peace conference.

The official Communist Party newspaper Pravda said the Jordanian monarch's visit would "contribute to the creation of a new climate in international relations and to establishing a durable peace in the

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

Have you given?
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1987

1,500 feared dead after tanker and 'holiday ship' collide off Manila

MANTILA (AP) — Searchers found no trace yesterday of nearly 1,500 people feared dead after a ship packed with holiday travellers collided with an oil tanker and sank in a sea of flames south of the Philippine capital on Sunday night, officials said.

The tanker also caught fire and went down in one of the worst maritime disasters of this century, officials said. Some reports spoke of up to 3,000 dead. The official death toll in the Philippine accident is similar to that from the sinking of the Titanic in 1912.

Twenty-six people survived the collision between the 2,215-ton ferry Dona Paz and the 629-ton Philippine

tanker Victor, off Mindoro Island, about 176 kms south of Manila.

Five commercial vessels, a Filipino naval ship and three U.S. Air Force helicopters were searching the area.

"We saw absolutely nothing as far as a ship wreck, oil spill, signs of life, or signs of an accident," said a U.S. Air Force searcher.

About 17 hours passed before Filipino authorities asked for help in finding survivors, according to U.S. Air Force officials. Filipino authorities were not available for comment on the delay.

The weather at major Swissair destinations

	21.12.87	MIN.	MAX.	
AMSTERDAM	7 45	3 48	Cloudy	
BRUSSELS	3 37	7 48	Clear	
BURKINSALES	14 87	24 76	Clear	
CHICAGO	0 22	4 40	Cloudy	
COPENHAGEN	7 65	9 68	Clear	
FRANKFURT	10 50	7 48	Cloudy	
GENEVA	0 38	11 82	Clear	
HELSINKI	1 39	1 54	Rain	
HONG KONG	10 20	20 28	Clear	
JERUSALEM	18 04	23 04	Cloudy	
LEDSH	12 54	17 52	Clear	
LONDON	9 48	12 54	Cloudy	
MADRID	8 45	17 03	Cloudy	
MONTREAL	4 38	4 21	Snow	
NEW YORK	2 38	8 48	Clear	
OSLO	4 21	12 22	Clear	
PARIS	7 45	9 48	Cloudy	
RIO DE JANEIRO	19 86	20 86	Cloudy	
SAO PAULO	17 85	20 84	Cloudy	
STOCKHOLM	1 39	2 38	Cloudy	
TOKYO	8 41	12 54	Clear	
TORONTO	1 34	6 41	Cloudy	
VIENNA	7 45	9 48	Cloudy	
ZURICH	4 11	10 22	Clear	

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THE WEATHER

	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's	Max
	Humidity	Min-Max	Min-Max	
Jerusalem	51	8-14	11	11
Golan	66	7-13	10	10
Nahariya	62	11-16	16	16
Safed	86	5-9	7	7
Haifa Port	43	13-19	16	16
Tiberias	92	12-19	16	16
Nazareth	67	9-13	16	16
Afula	67	10-20	16	16
Shomron	36	9-15	12	12
Tel Aviv	59	12-19	16	16
B-G Airport	44	10-19	15	15
Jericho	37	11-21	18	18
Gaza	51	11-20	16	16
BeerSheva	32	6-19	16	16
Eilat	60	11-22	19	19

MKs urge: Don't give in to the extremists

By DVORAH GETZLER and ROBERT ROSENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporters

The Likud aspires to equality for all Israel's citizens, according to faction chairman Sara Doron, summing up the faction's secretariat meeting yesterday. The party is appealing to Israeli Arabs not to fall prey to extremists who want to upset the good relations between Jews and Arabs in Israel.

Labour Party secretary-general Uzi Baram expressed concern that recent events might foster more extreme attitudes on the right, but also expressed the hope that it might lead to a "pause for thought," which could result in moderation. Both were reacting to the recent wave of violence on the part of Arabs in Israel and the territories.

Doron, of the party's Liberal wing, said she totally rejected the idea of reimposing military government as proposed by party colleague Haim Kaufman. (See "In Person," page 2.) The party communiqué made it clear that this was Doron's personal opinion.

In fact, her only support came from Dan Meridor, who said he preferred "to follow in the footsteps of Menachem Begin, who did away with military government, rather than David Ben-Gurion, who introduced it." (In fact, it was Levi Eshkol and not Begin who did away with military government, though Begin steadfastly opposed it.)

Party whip Yehoshua Matza de-

(Continued on Page Nine)

Ted Kennedy: Redouble effort for peace talks

By KEN SCHACHTER
For The Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV - U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy, referring to the unrest in Gaza and the West Bank, yesterday called on all sides of the Arab-Israeli conflict to "redouble" their efforts in pursuing peace talks.

"I come to Israel at a time of troubles in Gaza and the West Bank and I think all Americans are saddened by the loss of life and the suffering on both sides," he said.

The Massachusetts Democrat spoke at Tel Aviv University during the concluding day of the Jeanne Kirkpatrick Forum.

In comments to reporters, Kirkpatrick said that Israel is confronted with a "nearly impossible situation" because of the shadowy nature of terrorism.

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May the Shechina Always Abide in Their Home
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Rabbi Sholem B. Kowalsky, Chairman

HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

More soldiers to face punishment for 'faulty' actions in hang-glider attack

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Post Defence Reporter

TEL AVIV - Chief of General Staff Dan Shomron has approved taking measures against two more Nahal officers and five more soldiers who failed to do their duty during the "night of the hang-gliders."

So far, 10 officers and men have been punished for shortcomings revealed during the November 25 attack, when a lone gunman crossed the northern border by hang-glider and penetrated the Nahal brigade headquarters near Kiryat Shmona. The raider killed six soldiers and wounded seven before a wounded soldier shot and killed him.

The IDF spokesman issued a statement yesterday saying that OC Manpower Branch Aluf Matan Vilnai, who investigated the incident, recommended sacking an officer and three non-commissioned officers who "did not act in accordance with acceptable norms." The cases of another officer and two men

whose actions were "faulty" will be handled by their commander. The CGS approved the recommendations, the statement said.

Earlier the CGS reprimanded a division commander, sacked the Nahal brigade commander, and decided to discharge from the IDF the camp's operations officer.

The Military Police meanwhile completed its investigation into the incident and military Advocate-General Tat-Aluf Amnon Strachnow decided to press charges against the operations officer and against the guard who fled.

At a briefing for defence reporters yesterday, Vilnai appeared eager to dispel any notion that the failures at the Nahal base reflected on the army's fighting spirit, but he declined to answer some important questions.

Vilnai would not say what exactly happened during the attack. Heeding the advice of IDF spokesman Tat-Aluf Efraim Lapid, who sat

near him, he declined to say how many officers had been at the Nahal headquarters when the raider attacked. He also evaded a question on whether steps were taken against all the officers who were there at the time. "All the officers who were at the base acted as they thought they should. The incident took only between one and four minutes, and in such a short time people may make mistakes," he said.

"We wanted to see whether officers were indifferent or hid," he related. "All of them acted."

Vilnai said he had examined the inquiries into all 30 battles in the North since the IDF established the security zone in South Lebanon in May 1985. He concluded that "certainly this event does not reflect on the [IDF as a whole]."

Vilnai offered two explanations for the problems found in this Nahal unit.

First, the operations officer, who was acting commanding officer at

the time, failed to pass on the warning that a hang-glider was on its way.

Second, the raider attacked a rear headquarters staffed with cooks, storemen and Shekem personnel, "not naval commandos and graduates of NCO courses."

He rejected claims that recent battles have shown a drop in fighting standards.

He confirmed that his investigation did not centre on the means used to guard camps, though he had recommended improvements. Very senior IDF officers had said the faulty guarding at the Nahal camp reflected the situation in other units.

The official IDF announcement also noted that two Nahal soldiers performed valiantly during the hang-glider affair. Samal Gideon Bashari killed the raider and Samal Alon Wolfin, a medic, treated the wounded though he himself was injured. He kept administering first aid until he collapsed.

Show of protest in Abu Ghosh

By ANDY COURT
For The Jerusalem Post

Stones may be thrown in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip may be in flames, but when a tyre burns in Abu Ghosh, something must indeed be wrong.

The residents of this peaceful, picturesque Arab village in the Jerusalem corridor, who helped the Jews during the War of Independence, have been loyal Israeli citizens ever since. Protests in Abu Ghosh have been about as infrequent as snowstorms in Eilat.

Most of the stores in the village were open yesterday and the local school held exams despite the general strike that Israeli Arabs held to protest against the recent events in the territories.

But early yesterday morning, a group of children, most of them seven or eight years old, blocked the road outside the school, eyewitnesses in the village said. The children were dispersed by a few policemen who did not use force.

Later in the morning, two tyres were burned in the middle of the same road. Swarms of children scrambled around the tyres, but it was not clear if they were protesting or simply celebrating their absence from school.

The children threw some stones on the road but were not observed stoning passing cars.

Many of the village elders said that the disturbance was just the work of a few impressionable children.

"When a child sees tyres burning on television every night, he starts to think that is the thing to do," one man said.

But others believe the disturbance is a sign of a deeper and more pervasive sentiment.

"The children are affected by what is happening; they are not just imitating what they see on television," said Ibrahim Mahmoud, 35. "If thousands of people in Tel Aviv demonstrate against what is happening in the territories, why shouldn't people here do something too?"

A number of high school pupils and older residents say they want to cancel Prime Minister Shamir's scheduled visit to their village on Wednesday because of the current unrest.

"How can we meet with him when he is killing our brothers in Gaza?" asked Sammy Arif, 17.

Yet the atmosphere in Abu Ghosh yesterday was far different from that in Gaza or even the West Bank. Drive through the village on the lookout for trouble, one villager commented: "It's a shame to waste the petrol."

HUSSEIN

(Continued from Page One)

Middle East, taking into account the interests of the governments and peoples in the region. It described Hussein as "an eminent leader and partisan of Arab unity" and recalled that he had called for the "active participation of the Soviet Union in the Middle East peace process."

Hussein was also expected to call on Moscow to adopt a firmer line towards Iran prior to next week's Security Council discussion of the Gulf war.

According to Jordanian diplomatic sources, the king will also raise the possibility of purchasing 40 Mig-29 fighter bombers from the Soviet Union.



Police throw tear-gas at rioters in North Jerusalem yesterday.

Construction and textile work curtailed

By KEN SCHACHTER
For The Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV - Building and textile production were curtailed - and in some cases stopped altogether - yesterday as Arabs from the territories and Israel proper staged a one-day general strike.

Dov Polak, managing director of Polgat Ltd., said that production was "slowed" at some of his company's plants.

The strike had little impact on Polgat's Tiberias factory, he said, but at the company's Kiryat Gat fabrics and yarns factory managers and technicians were shifted to production jobs in an effort to make up for

lost manpower. "We didn't lose any shifts," he said, but there was less production per shift.

Polak and other industrialists and builders noted that the strike's effectiveness seemed to vary from area to area. Workers from the Gaza Strip observed the strike, Polak said, while those from the Hebron area reported for work.

Nehemiah Kaplan, who heads Melisa Ltd., a construction company, said that virtually none of his Arab employees reported for work - except for some from Jerusalem. "I'm building in Ashkelon, so the people came from Gaza and most

didn't arrive," he said. Nevertheless, he said, he continued work on a commercial centre.

Yoram Radoshitzky, managing director of the Emek Knitting Mills Ltd., and former chairman of the textile division of the Manufacturers' Association, said there "was some absenteeism at his Afula plant, but the factory remained open."

"I know one factory that's in Tel Aviv that was closed today because they employ mostly Arabs," he said.

He declined to estimate how many of the approximately 57,000 textile workers nationwide were kept home by the strike.

ISRAELI ARAB

been nearly total were the council chairman not an Israeli appointed to the post.

Northern District police spokesman Rav-Pakad Yehoshua Sinai said 40 suspected rioters were arrested in Nazareth and 17 in Umm el-Fahm. He described the rioting in the two towns as "very serious" because it had endangered lives and property.

Trouble flared in Nazareth shortly after midday following a minute's silence for those killed and wounded in the recent wave of civil unrest in the territories.

Youths armed with stones and slingshots who had earlier tried to incite a crowd of several hundred in the main square, by St. Mary's Well, attacked the nearby police station. They also erected barriers from concrete sewer pipes, wooden pallets and overturned garbage bins in the main street.

Following the attack, police intervened and after repeated warnings to the crowd to disperse were ignored, opened fire with teargas. Later, a water cannon along with

police reinforcement were brought in to quell the rioters. The disturbances lasted for over 4 hours.

Rakah Communist MK Tewfik Tunbi later intervened to calm the atmosphere and together with other strike organizers persuaded the demonstrators to disperse. He accused the police of provoking the violence, charging that it was a "second conquest of Nazareth."

Earlier, Nazareth Mayor and Rakah MK Tewfik Ziad attacked a call by Likud MK Haim Kaufman to reinstate military government in some Arab villages in the Galilee and the North.

"Kof in Hebrew means monkey. I believe Kaufman's statement is a kind of nostalgia of a monkey in the forest. To go back to military rule is a sign of regression," he said.

In Kfar Yasif, in the Western Galilee, an estimated 10,000 people demonstrated peacefully in the streets despite torrential rain.

They called on the government to stop the bloodletting and seek a peaceful solution to the conflict under the auspices of a UN sponsored international peace conference with the participation of all those involved, including the PLO.

The World Zionist Organization

The Jewish Agency for Israel

We share the grief of our colleague and head of the Youth Aliyah Department of the Jewish Agency

Uri Gordon

on the passing of his mother

TOVA

and extend sincerest condolences to the family.

Simcha Dinitz
Chairman of the Executive

Mendel Kaplan
Chairman of the Board of Governors

On the first anniversary of the death of

PHILIP BRESLIR

a memorial service and tombstone unveiling ceremony will be held at 3 p.m., Thursday, December 24, 1987 (Tevet 3, 5748) at Kibbutz Urim Cemetery.

The family

'Riots have brought Israel close to moment of truth'

IN PERSON

BENNY MORRIS



Haim Kaufman (Uzi Keren)

Haim Kaufman, chairman of the Likud's Knesset faction, feels unabashed about his proposal, well-publicized yesterday against the backdrop of the mass rioting in Israel's Arab minority centres, to reinstate the Military Government in "certain" areas of Israel. Kaufman believes that yesterday's riots have brought Israel close to "a moment of truth."

"And don't think I didn't expect criticism of the proposal, even from my own (Likud) colleagues," says Kaufman. "After all, it was Labour's (David) Ben-Gurion who instituted the Military Government and Herut's (Menachem) Begin who opposed it."

Nonetheless, Kaufman stands by his proposal, "which is, if the violence and incitement escalates, to consider the imposition of Military Government, at least temporarily, in certain areas where there are problems."

Kaufman then refers to Umm el-Fahm, where last week Arab demonstrators held aloft posters calling for Israel's destruction and where yesterday "3,000 rioters threw stones. Or Wadi Ara, where Israeli traffic was stoned yesterday. "What is the alternative? To allow the major road to the Galilee to be cut off?"

Kaufman believes and hopes that the imposition of restrictions on movement and the need to obtain special licences from the authorities will persuade the majority of Israeli Arabs to curb "and throw out" the trouble-makers. "The problem is the youngsters, and the born-again fundamentalists. The older people only want peace and quiet."

At the same time, Kaufman feels that the bulk of Israel's Arabs are rapidly drifting or are being swept towards extremism, in no small measure "because of the leftists' statements and proposals." He specifically refers to some leftists' support for Palestinian statehood, and Foreign Minister Peres' advocacy of an international conference for Middle East peace and of a "demilitarization" of the Gaza Strip. "Such proposals raise the Palestinians' expectations, and so they are eager on to make demands. Such proposals awaken [their] nationalist aspirations," says Kaufman.

Won't the Military Government proposal drive Israel's Arabs into the extremists' arms? "They are already there," says Kaufman with a smile.

The proposal of Palestinian statehood cannot fail to "activate" Israel's Arab minority, Kaufman feels. "Will the inhabitants of Umm el-Fahm, who are five kilometres from the Green Line and 50 kilometres from Tel Aviv, feel closer to the West Bank Arabs or to Tel Aviv? The answer is obvious. And how will the establishment of a [West Bank] state solve the [problems of] Galilee Arabs? Israel's Arabs will inevitably want to become part of such a state. And what answer does the Left have to this?"

In 1967, Kaufman says, Israel's Arabs looked "condescendingly" at the Arabs of the West Bank. "From above. But today, the gaps have closed. And if they demand a state, so will Israel's Arabs."

Are you proposing denying some of the Israeli Arabs' rights? "I am not speaking about denying rights. Even now they don't fulfil duties [as do Jewish citizens]. Did you know that most Israeli Arabs do not pay a television licence fee? The authorities do not impose the law in this respect. There are about 100,000 television sets in the Arab sector operating without licences. The same applies to income tax and value added tax. The authorities turn a blind eye, they don't want trouble with the Arabs so they don't force them to pay up."

"If we were more united, and we mean the leftists among us, stopped making these proposals, then we wouldn't have this problem."

Kaufman believes that in the next elections, the Arabs will cease altogether to vote for "Zionist parties, which Labour and the Citizens Rights Movement and I too will be sorry about. The Left will then reap what it has sown."

The Israel Institute of Petroleum & Energy and its Board of Directors

deeply mourns the sudden passing in Miami, Florida of its devoted trustee and supporter

BERNARD H. BARNETT

and expresses its sincere condolences to the bereaved wife and family.

Dr. Z. Dinstein
Chairman
The Israel Institute of Petroleum & Energy

We mourn the death of our brother-in-law and uncle

SIMCHA LANDAU

a man of great learning, faith and humanity, and share in the grief of his children.

Yardena Landau
David and Jacqueline Landau
Pinhas and Judith Landau

With deep sorrow, we announce the death of our mother and grandmother

ROZIE DE-JONG

The funeral will take place at 12 noon, today, Tuesday, December 22, 1987 at the Holon Cemetery.

The bereaved:
Uri De-Jong and family
Dvora Schwartz and family
Nechama Gurman and family
Shiva at the Gurman residence, Moshav Gemtzo.

We share in the grief of

LESLIE STEIN

on the death of his

Mother

Mediterranean Car Agency Ltd.
Techno Rechev, Haifa

With deep sorrow, we announce the death of

LILY HOF

on December 21, 1987

The bereaved family
Viola Moscoso
and the family overseas

Contras mobilize 7,000 for war's biggest offensive

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Nicaraguan rebels have launched their biggest offensive in their seven-year war to topple the government in Managua, mobilizing 7,000 soldiers to strike into key economic and military regions, rebel leaders said here yesterday.

"It is our largest operation in the war up to now... We have moved the most men the greatest distance in the shortest period of time," said a Nicaraguan resistance statement yesterday.

The offensive comes on the eve of peace talks that were to begin in the Dominican Republic and just after the U.S. Congress and White House officials worked out a compromise budget that contains \$8.1 million in non-lethal funding for the rebels.

The U.S.-backed Contra rebels launched their surprise attack on the mineral-rich central regions northeast of Managua that contain silver and gold deposits and the Sandinistas

largest munitions stockpiles, radar and tracking stations.

"Operation comandante Olivero" mobilized troops to overwhelm supply routes used mainly by the Sandinista Air Force to transport their troops and landing strips from which they carry out bombing raids with Soviet-built Antonov-26 planes, the statement said.

"These routes... have more military than economic significance since almost 100 per cent of the military vehicles transporting personnel, equipment, munitions and fuel must pass through them," said the statement.

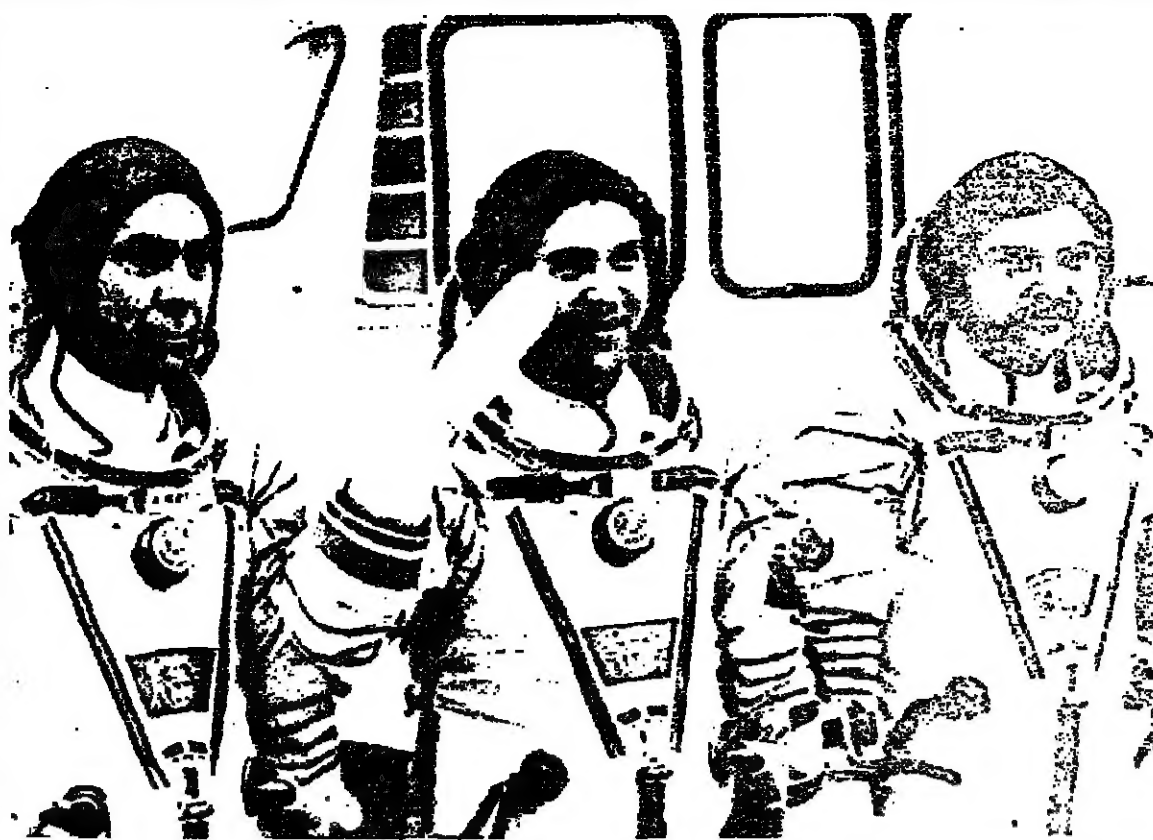
"The objective... is to show our military capability to overthrow the Sandinistas and to anyone else who still questions that," said the press release that noted that the offensive "was taking place at this moment." The Contra rebels are aiming their offensive at the towns of Sinina, Ro-

sita and Bonanza, along with some landing strips in the area, with the aim of disrupting or destroying the country's infrastructure.

The statement said the Contra leadership would consider the operation a success if the rebels could "take two of the three main towns, hold them for 24 hours and share with the people food and provisions."

Nicaragua's Contra rebels announced Friday that they would observe a two-day Christmas truce agreed to Wednesday by the government, a spokesman for the Roman Catholic Church said.

The rebels made their decision, known in a telephone call to Miguel Cardinal Obando y Bravo, the archbishop of Managua, who is acting as a mediator in negotiations between the two sides, the church spokesman said. The December 24 and 25 truce would be the first mutually-agreed Christmas ceasefire.



Cosmonauts Anatoly Levchenko, left, Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov, who were sent into space yesterday to replace the crew aboard the Soviet space station. (Reuters)

Egypt and Argentina 'working on missile'

LONDON (AFP) — Egypt and Argentina are working together to produce a long-range land-based missile which could potentially change the military balance in the Middle East, the Financial Times newspaper said here in yesterday's edition.

The paper, quoting well-informed sources in Cairo, said the Condor II missile would be a solid-fuel rocket with a range of some 800 kilometres.

It said that according to some Western sources, Egypt had already made at least one test-firing of the rocket.

The report said it was possible, but not confirmed, that Iraq was providing some of the finance to build the weapon.

Such an arm would provide Egypt with a counter to Israel's Jericho II missile, which has a range of 750 kilometres and could be fitted with nuclear warheads, the paper noted. It could also prove an important factor in the war between Iraq and Iran.

The Financial Times also pointed out that possession by Argentina of such a weapon could threaten the security of the British-ruled Falkland Islands, which the Argentines call the Malvinas. Argentina fought an unsuccessful war to regain the South Atlantic islands from Britain in 1982.

Egypt is also known to be building, with help from North Korea, an adapted version of the Soviet Scud-B ground-to-ground missile, which has a range of 300 kilometres.

The Scud-B, supplied by the Soviet Union to Iraq, has been used in the Gulf war to attack Iranian cities.

Afghan rebels seek help against new attacks

ISLAMABAD (Reuters) — A major Afghan government offensive has forced anti-Communist guerrillas to call for help in maintaining their prolonged siege of the eastern garrison town of Khost near the Pakistan border, according to guerrilla sources yesterday.

They said the area's main guerrilla commander Jalaluddin Haqqani asked for reinforcements after an advance by Soviet and Afghan government forces towards the town in Paktia Province, which borders Pakistan.

On Saturday, Moscow Television showed a film of the troops shelling what a Soviet reporter called rebel strongholds and arms-supply routes in a snow-capped mountain range in the Khost district.

The guerrilla sources said the Soviet and Afghan government troops, operating from the main staging area of Gardez, had occupied some strategic heights midway between the provincial capital of Gardez and Khost.

The Pakistan-based guerrilla parties are preparing to send reinforcements in response to the request from Haqqani, who belongs to the Hezb-i-Islami Party of Mohammed Yunus Khalis.

Hezb-i-Islami has played the ma-

jeor role in blockading Khost area during the nine-year-old guerrilla war. But the guerrilla sources said elements from the other six parties in the major guerrilla alliance fighting the Soviet-backed Afghan government were also fighting in the area.

They said the appeal for reinforcements was addressed to all the parties in the alliance, presently headed by Khalis.

The offensive follows a warning by Afghan President Najibullah at the end of November of military operations if the rebels failed to make peace. Western diplomats in Islamabad last week reported fierce fighting in the area, a movement of military convoys and Sukhoi-25 jets stationed in the capital Kabul flying sorties towards the battle zone.

The Moscow Television report said the offensive was against some 9,000 rebels. But a guerrilla source in the northwestern Pakistani town of Peshawar put the guerrilla strength in the area at about 7,000.

Western diplomats and rebel sources have reported heavy government casualties in the offensive. The diplomats last week quoted reports from Kabul as saying that hospitals in the Afghan capital were full of casualties from the battle.

Saudi prince seeks end to Arab rifts

CAIRO (AP) — Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia arrived here yesterday from Damascus on the third leg of a tour aimed at speeding up a reconciliation between Syria and Iraq. He was met at the airport by Prime Minister Atef Sedki.

Abdullah earlier visited the Syrian and Iraqi capitals. Damascus Radio said on Sunday that Abdullah's talks in Syria had dealt with inter-Arab relations and the seven-year-old Iran-Iraq war.

Abdullah in Baghdad said Abdullah's trip there was aimed at boosting efforts to end the rift between Syria and Iraq, which are ruled by rival wings of the Baath party. Earlier ideological differences between the neighbouring states deepened when Syria sided with Iran in the Gulf war.

After meeting Abdullah on Sunday, the Iraqi president made an apparent reference to the reconciliation effort when he told reporters he hoped to achieve "what we all wish for."

"We should all work toward a better atmosphere in the Arab world, which will enable us to confront all the dangers that threaten the Arab world, and especially those created by Israel," he added.

Ship sinks with 55 aboard

JAKARTA (AFP) — A freighter with 55 people aboard sank in the Java Sea early Sunday after capsizing in rough seas, the official Antara news agency reported yesterday.

Antara said the fate of the people including 15 crew aboard the Binter, a timber carrier shuttling between Java and Kalimantan Islands, was not immediately known.

Head of current crew has been away 319 days

Soviet cosmonauts off to replace men on Mir space station

MOSCOW (AP) — Three Soviet cosmonauts blasted off aboard a Soyuz TM-4 capsule yesterday to replace a crew at the Mir space station that has set records for endurance in space. It will be the first complete crew change at a Soviet orbital platform.

The current Mir crew is headed by Yuri Romanenko, who has been in space for 319 days.

The white capsule left the Baikonur space centre in Soviet Kazakhstan on schedule at 2:18 p.m. Moscow time. Its flaming engines

spread a rose-coloured glow on the snowy landscape before the live television broadcast showed the spacecraft disappearing as an orange cross into the murky sky.

Television then showed black-and-white pictures of the cosmonauts inside the space craft. It reported that everything was functioning normally and stopped its coverage of the blast off after about 10 minutes.

Tass, the official news agency, carried a two-sentence announcement of the lift-off and brief biogra-

phies of the cosmonauts.

The Soyuz TM-4 was carrying Vladimir Titov, 40-year-old crew chief, Musa Manarov, a 31-year-old flight engineer, and Anatoly Levchenko, a test pilot, to a rendezvous with the Mir space station.

Manarov and Levchenko are making their first flights into space. Radio Moscow said the docking would take place Wednesday, and that Romanenko and cosmonaut Alexander Alexandrov would return to earth in time for the new year celebration.

Growing anti-Americanism after disputed election result

S. Korean students attacks U.S. centre

KWANGJU, South Korea (AFP) — Protesters fire-bombed the U.S. cultural centre in this southwestern provincial capital yesterday in an attack that observers said highlighted an upsurge in anti-Americanism since ruling party candidate Roh Tae Woo's election victory last Wednesday.

A group of about 25 youths, apparently students, ran at the gates of the U.S. Information Service centre as darkness fell and hurled about 20 home-made fire-bombs, a U.S. Embassy spokesman in Seoul said.

The students did not gain access to the building or cause any apparent damage and nobody was hurt, the official said.

The domestic news agency Yonhap said that six students had been detained in connection with the attack. State-owned radio reported that a student had been arrested nearby and about 100 fire-bombs had been found in a small truck.

Observers said the attack highlighted increased anti-Americanism in Kwangju following Roh's disputed victory in Wednesday's presidential election. Kwangju is the power base of defeated opposition leader Kim Dae Jung.

Kim and other opposition leaders have said that the election, which Roh won with a 37 per cent plurality, is invalid due to massive fraud.

U.S. President Ronald Reagan said in a congratulatory letter to Roh delivered by the U.S. ambassador on Saturday, that the ex-general would have the U.S.'s "fullest support."

Foreign reporters in Kwangju said a U.S. television crew had been stoned on Friday and that two U.S. reporters had been surrounded by an angry crowd that pounded their car shouting anti-American slogans.

Wall posters showed an Uncle Sam with claws dripping blood supporting Roh, the reporters said.

But the attack and a similar fire-bomb raid on offices of state-controlled Mun Hwa Broadcasting Company (MBC) seemed also to be attention-grabbing efforts by activists who have been unable to mobilize wide support, observers said.

Street protests in Kwangju since the election have been mostly limited to students while calls for mass rallies in Seoul have gone unheeded.

Kim Dae Jung and rival Kim Young Sam have vowed to fight Roh's victory by peaceful means but have not offered any specific plan.

Reagan signs bill to keep U.S. running till budget is passed

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — President Reagan has signed a resolution passed by Congress that will provide money for the government to continue in operation yesterday a White House spokesman said.

Congress earlier approved the stopgap bill to keep the government running for a day until it completes a long-term budget package that includes aid to Nicaragua rebels and cuts the U.S. budget deficit.

White House spokesman Mark Weinberg said Reagan had signed the emergency measure sent to him by the House of Representatives and the Senate. Congress passed the resolution to avoid a shutdown of non-vital services because government spending authority had expired on Saturday.

Congressional negotiators had reached agreement in principle late Saturday night to provide \$8.1 million to continue supplying non-military aid to the Contras fighting the leftist Nicaraguan Sandinist government.

That accord broke an impasse holding up the winnowing of this year's congressional session. The agreement calls for \$3.6 million in food, clothing and shelter through February and the rest would be for air dropping those goods and undelivered military supplies from past legislation.

This would give Congress time to finish a huge spending bill and a companion tax measure that implements the budget deficit accord worked out with Reagan and supplies new non-military aid to the Contras.

That record spending bill and a companion tax and spending cut measure would implement last month's agreement to cut \$30.2 billion from the estimated \$180 billion deficit, a deal reached between Reagan and congressional leaders last month. The deal — worked out to calm markets after October's stock market plunge — also provides for another \$46 billion slash off the 1989 deficit.

Freed after 25 years; 18 in solitary

ASUNCION, Paraguay (AP) — Former Capt. Napoleon Ortigosa, one of Latin America's longest-held political prisoners, has been freed after 25 years, most of them spent in solitary confinement in a tiny cell.

The Human Rights Commission of Paraguay had long lobbied for his release, saying Ortigosa, 63, had been tortured and denied his civil rights.

Ortigosa spent 18 years alone in a 1-metre-by-2-metre cell in Asuncion. He completed his 25-year sentence Thursday. Authorities freed him from prison Sunday and placed

him in police custody for 30 days in a small hotel in San Estanislao.

Ortigosa was convicted in 1962 of slaying an army cadet rumoured to have uncovered a plot to overthrow Gen. Alfredo Stroessner, ruler of this landlocked country of 3.7 million since 1954.

The cadet, Alberto Anastasio Benitez, was reportedly a friend of Stroessner's son, Gustavo, a career army officer.

"I suspect that... I was implicated by mistake," Ortigosa was quoted as saying yesterday by the independent Asuncion daily newspaper Hoy.

Zimbabwe bolsters forces to repulse Mozambican rebel marauder gangs

ZIMBABWE'S EASTERN BORDER — Zimbabwe has disclosed that the security forces have intensified their operations in the border areas and have been ordered to be "ruthless with bandits."

On a recent tour of the eastern border areas, it was clear that the Zimbabwean authorities are making a determined stand against the Mozambican rebels. Troops have been deployed along the 1,100 km. frontier. Described by an army commander as being like "a pack of wild dogs itching for a fight," the highly-trained troops are maintaining a high profile, stepping up foot patrols with a 10-km. night of hot pursuit into Mozambique.

Guerrillas started extending their 11-year-old conflict with the Maputo government into Zimbabwe last June. In the last two months, according to official sources, more than 50 civilians have been killed and scores abducted by marauding Mozambican National Resistance gangs along this border. The rebels have also been looting homes and shops.

What has shocked the authorities

is the brutality with which the raids are carried out. A grief-stricken community near Nyamapanda on Zimbabwe's north-eastern border with Mozambique early this month buried seven members of one family who had been axed to death by guerrillas who came to the village in the middle of the night.

Near the farming town of Chipinge, about 50 guerrillas attacked a boarding school on a tea plantation. Raphael Dziwa, a teacher at the school, said they ordered the students to pack all their clothes, soap, sugar and other foodstuffs, and frog-marched 120 of them to Mude, 15 km. inside Mozambique. At the school, they left pamphlets with photographs of Alfonso Dhlakama, the leader of the MNR.

Inside Mozambique, the students saw five of their colleagues, two boys and three girls, hacked to death and six had an ear and lips cut off with a bayonet so that, they were told by the guerrillas, they will "not be able to hear or report" to the authorities. Most of the students and teachers have said that they are not coming back when the school

year begins next month.

In the lush banana and tobacco growing Burma Valley, about 40 minutes' drive south of the eastern Zimbabwean border town of Mutema, six people were killed and nine abducted by MNR guerrillas believed to have bases around Chikamba in Mozambique's Manica province.

Earlier, according to Alan MacGregor, a shipper turned farmer in the area, a gang of 40 armed men completely looted his shop and a nearby clinic. Before abducting 12 farm workers, they forced them to cook a meal while they drank liquor from the shop.

Stories of atrocities and gruesome murders by MNR gangs in the affected areas along this border abound and military sources say there is at least one incident every two days. In the northeast of the country people have abandoned their homes, livestock and fields while in areas in the east and the areas near Gonarezhou game reserve in the southeast they take to the bush at night.

(London Observer Service)

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Jerome Shestack

'I feel betrayed as a Jew,' he tells symposium here

International human rights leader attacks Israeli policy

By DAVID KRIVINE
Attacking Israel's policy in the territories, Jerome Shestack — president of the International League of Human Rights — stated yesterday: "As a Jew, I feel betrayed."
"The army is trying to control the Arab population and is losing control of itself," he told a symposium in Jerusalem on the rights of man. "The political situation in the territories needs to be redressed. This nation has had 20 years to do the redressing and has not managed," Shestack, former U.S. ambassador to the UN Commission on Human Rights, told the gathering organized jointly by the Hebrew University and the Alliance Israelite Universelle (AIU). The occasion was the 100th anniversary of the birth of Rene Cassin, 1968 winner of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Shestack was taken to task only by

Jules Brunschwig, president of the AIU, who was in the chair and found his judgment too harsh.
Gerard Israel, of the French Consultative Commission on Human Rights, drew attention to a resolution by the organization representing the Jews of France advocating elections in the administered areas, under international supervision. "This would yield Arab leaders with whom it might be possible to negotiate," he said.

Professor Yoram Dinstein of Tel Aviv University said that the territories are legally under "belligerent occupation," which means that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights cannot be invoked since it applies only in times of peace.

In times of war, the Geneva Convention applies, he said, and Israel has formally undertaken to observe all its humanitarian provisions.

Nevertheless, Israel has breached the convention in three respects, he alleged: the destruction of houses that had harbored perpetrators of terrorist acts; the deportation of PLO activists; and the creation of Jewish settlements across the Green Line.

Hebrew University Professor Claude Klein drew attention to a 1965 Supreme Court ruling stating that the Arab el-Ard Party could not stand for election to the Knesset because it did not recognize the Jewish state. At the time, court president Shimon Agranat stated that leaders of el-Ard were not affected by this prohibition as individuals since they could be elected to the Knesset, as long as they appeared on some other list that was legally authorized.

This illustrates how individual rights take precedence over collective rights, Klein concluded.

Tension takes toll on Negev employment with ugly edge to Arab-Jewish relations

By BRADLEY BURSTON / Jerusalem Post Reporter
BEERSHEBA — Unrest in the territories, already a major cause of absenteeism in Negev factories and public institutions, may also be having a negative impact on Arab-Jewish relations in the area.

In recent days, a number of Gaza residents have been sacked from jobs in the Negev as a result of bitter arguments punctuated by ethnic slurs. Earlier this week, after a waiter from Gaza employed by one of Beersheba's best-known restaurants held a protracted work-related argument with a Jewish fellow employee, the waiter stood in the dining room and reportedly began screaming curses, "vilifying all Jews," according to the owner.

"We were forced to fire him immediately," the owner told reporters yesterday, "and we did so without hesitation."

On a moshav near Netivot, a farm owner who employs large numbers of Gazans as well as several Jews reported "a situation of extreme tension" whenever hourly news broadcasts came over the radio.

"Every hour on the hour, the Arab workers turned up the volume on the radio, and the tension was terrible. You could see the anger on their faces."

"In order to prevent an outburst of rage, I had to cut off the electricity altogether so that the radio wouldn't work."

Some observers see a current criminal case in the Beduin village of Rahat as connected with the violent resistance to Israeli authorities.

According to a police request for the remand of a resident of the Beduin village of Rahat arrested for assaulting a police officer, "the suspect took

advantage of the fact that a policeman was alone in an Arab area, and attacked him."

Charges have also been filed in recent days against a Rafah resident employed as an agricultural worker in a nearby moshav. The charge sheet, filed here last Friday, charges the worker with having stretched a steel cable across the road leading to Moshav Yevul, with the intention of causing injury to passing motorists.

Meanwhile, a number of Negev industrial plants have closed their doors until workers from Gaza return to their jobs. Some factory managers, worried about future unrest, have reportedly put out feelers to labour contractors concerning the possibility of hiring workers from abroad.

The reports of factory closings and foreign hirings was met with anger yesterday by Negev labour leaders, who cited figures that unemployment among Jews in development towns bordering Gaza has passed 9 per cent.

Yesterday, Gazans employed by the Sderot, Netivot, and Ofakim local councils stayed away en masse, and large piles of garbage accumulated in the streets.

Work also came to a standstill in Western Negev moshavim and construction sites.

In the Beersheba area, however, which draws its Arab work force largely from Beduin and West Bank villages, the strike was less in evidence.

The Beersheba Municipality reported that only 30 of its 150 Hebron-area workers failed to report yesterday. A somewhat higher percentage of Beduin stayed home, municipality sources said.



Tear-gas blows back at the men firing it in Nazareth yesterday.

(Media)

Tear-gas cloud over Nazareth

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Reporter
NAZARETH — The stench of tear-gas was in the air over this city yesterday as the solidarity strike of Israeli Arabs with residents of the territories erupted into violence.

Youths, their faces covered with keffiyehs, erected barriers along the main street.

Earlier, a group of youths, armed with stones and slingshots, had attacked the police headquarters.

The response was swift. Police, who had been keeping a low profile, burst out of the gate, equipped with riot gear and tear gas launchers. Within minutes, the situation turned into a full-scale riot.

Hadashot cameraman Yanir Alfia was attacked and beaten by a gang of youths who thought he was a police cameraman. His glasses and camera were broken and he suffered cuts and bruises before being rescued by the police and his colleagues.

The action swept on down the main street, with youths taunting the police, hurling stones and bottles and setting fire to the pallets with which they had barricaded part of the street.

The pile of rubble and garbage increased on the street, which would normally have been bustling with Christmas shoppers. Stones and bottles landed near the feet of the police, who responded by firing more tear-gas canisters towards the rioters.

Journalists were caught in the clouds of tear-gas.

"The rioting in the territories is now on the streets of Israel," said one of the reporters who has covered

the unrest in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip.

Police reinforcements and Border Policemen in full riot gear were rushed to the scene. They moved down the street, firing tear-gas and clearing away the rioters; but still the stones and bottles flew through the air.

A water cannon was used to fire jets of green dye at high pressure at the stone-throwing youths.

"What are you doing? You will kill somebody," shouted a woman from the courtyard of her home.

A group of youths gathered behind the corner of a house, emerging to throw stones and bricks at the police and Border Police.

A situation deteriorated into a "classic" confrontation between security forces and rioters. The stone throwers hid in the alleys and back streets, hurling their projectiles before retreating in the face of the tear-gas.

A Border Police half-track moved down the main street pushing away

the barricades of overturned garbage bins and burning pallets. The fighting, which started just after noon, raged for over an hour, with isolated outbreaks continuing well into the afternoon.

Earlier, the situation had been calm but tense. All the shops and businesses in this mixed Moslem and Christian Arab town were closed.

Previous attempts by troublemakers to provoke a confrontation had been contained by the strike organizers, despite stone-throwing incidents in which the windows of a second floor gambling club that had remained open were smashed.

At midday exactly, to the sounds of churchbells and calls from minarets, the crowd of several hundred which had gathered near St. Mary's Well stood in silence for a minute to commemorate the dead and wounded during the recent wave of unrest in the territories.

But shortly afterwards, the violence which had been simmering under the surface burst into flames.

Rakab MK Tawfik Toubi accused the police of provoking the rioting by using unnecessary force. He said the incident had been sparked off by a few hoodlums. The police response had been massive and this had exacerbated the situation, he said.

"We called on the security forces to leave the area and allow calm to be restored, but they refused and this is the result," he said, indicating the line of police and Border Policemen patrolling the rubble-strewn main street.

"They added fuel to the fire. This is a provocative blow to the people of Nazareth, Israeli Arabs and the Palestinian people," he charged.

Ecologist amazed bird-killing pesticide has gov't approval

By LISA PERLMAN
A Nature Reserves Authority official yesterday expressed his amazement that the Health Ministry permits use of fluorocetamide, the pesticide that has killed tens of thousands of birds and other rare and protected animals this month.

Yitzhak Meir, head of the NRA's pesticide monitoring unit, stated that "We want to prevent its use in order to preserve nature, but I don't understand how the Health Ministry has not been the first to call for an end to its use." The ministry approves use of fluorocetamides in warehouses, while the Agriculture Ministry allows its wide use in farming, predominantly against rodents.

The lethal effect of fluorocetamide extends beyond the animals that might consume it. Since it does not break down in the bloodstream for some 72 hours, hunters may be in danger of being poisoned if they eat the meat of a contaminated animal, and so may others if contaminated catches are sold.

An irony of the use of fluorocetamide is that its main target, the rodents, are barely attracted to it, according to one expert.

Fluorocetamide-treated seeds are mixed with the untreated wheat seeds and sown from the air, with the poisoned grains being coloured green. Non-target birds and animals, which might feed on rodents, are attracted to the wheat seeds.

Prof. Heinrich Mendelsohn, one-time head of Tel Aviv University's Zoology Department, says that rodents feed mainly on weeds, not on grain seeds, despite beliefs to the contrary of the Ministry of Agriculture's plant protection department.

"Therefore, it is useless to spread (fluorocetamide)," he said.

This year's report on the ministry by the State Comptroller found that it hardly supervises the use of pesticides. In five cases, the report noted, the ministry approved the issuance of licences despite opposition of the Health Ministry, or before full toxicological information was available.

Furthermore, the report stated, for 57 per cent of the pesticides currently in use, the human tolerance level is unknown.

The NRA's Meir said that as far as he knew there were almost no instances of farmers being taken to court for using poisonous pesticides such as this one.

It has been reported that Marom, the company whose planes spread the fluorocetamide-treated seeds over Kibbutz Gat's lands, killing tens of thousands of doves last week, has been engaged in this activity for decades without a licence.

To date, the fluorocetamide has killed thousands of birds, among them 12 rare predators and a rock partridge, seven gazelles and a wildcat. NRA workers have succeeded in saving five other rare birds, but say that the threat to protected species continues as long as the deadly pesticide remains on the ground.

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Elizabeth F. Neufeld



Henri Gery-Hers

American and Belgian share \$100,000 Wolf Prize in medicine

Jerusalem Post Reporter
An American and a Belgian will share the 1988 Wolf Prize in Medicine. Minister of Education and Culture Yitzhak Navon announced yesterday.

Professor Elizabeth F. Neufeld of the School of Medicine of the University of California in Los Angeles, and Professor Henri-Gery Hers of the Catholic University of Louvain in Brussels will share the \$100,000 prize for their discoveries relating to more than 30 different incurable genetic storage diseases, including Tay-Sachs.

Neufeld has shed light on enzymatic defects, discovered the way to selectively target lysosomal enzymes to lysosomes, and identified I-cell disease as a genetic deficiency of this

targeting process.

Hers discovered the first genetic storage disease and came up with the concept that allowed an extensive elucidation of one of the most mysterious chapters of pathology.

Thanks in part to their research, it has now become possible to detect the presence of genetic storage diseases in the fetus.

President Herzog will present the prize during a ceremony at the Knesset on May 12.

The Israel-based Wolf Foundation was established in 1976 to "promote science and art for the benefit of mankind." It makes six awards annually of \$100,000 each for achievements in medicine, mathematics, agriculture, physics, chemistry and the arts.

Rafael charges Shomron with weakening discipline in IDF

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA — The first step Chief of General Staff Dan Shomron took towards carrying out his pledge to "shake up the army," on assuming command, was to "weaken discipline," former chief of general staff Rafael Eitan said yesterday.

"With a stroke of the pen he compromised and allowed soldiers again to put their berets under their shoulder straps instead of on their heads, where a uniformed man must wear them."

"It took me years to enforce the full uniform, which is one component of discipline, and the relaxation has had a negative influence on the army," the Tzomet faction MK told a meeting of Haifa journalists.

He noted that the media had laughed at and criticized him when he had tightened discipline, put the berets on the soldiers' heads and ordered the collection of spent cartridge cases after practice firing as an economy measure.

"But discipline starts from the bottom up," he held.

He noted that the sentry at the Nahal camp in the North who had abandoned his post when the hang-glider assault was launched, had stood guard with his gun unloaded, the magazine withdrawn.

"The modern rifle is quite safe with the magazine in, provided the soldiers follow instructions. But the army won't allow them to keep the magazine in, for fear they won't car-

ry out regulations, due to lax discipline," he stressed.

He made a direct connection between a soldier's full uniform, smartly dressed and strictly adhering to regulations, and a disciplined army.

Asked how he explained Aluf-Mishne (res.) Emanuel Wald's report that the Lebanon war, during which Eitan had commanded the IDF, had been badly fought because things were wrong not at the bottom but at the top, he said: "Wald was never an officer and never even got a recruit's training. He was merely a ceremonial rank."

Moving to politics, Eitan said that the Tzomet Party "supports electoral reform and supports regional elections, even if this will make us disappear."

"If a party can't put up serious candidates in 60 to 90 constituencies, it doesn't deserve to be in the Knesset. And if the national interest and the cabinet's ability to govern call for the elimination of the small parties, then we should disappear," he added.

Tzomet's platform would put education before everything else "because without top-class education, there is no economy, no security, nothing."

The Arabs in Judea and Samaria would, under Tzomet's plans, be welcome to stay as Jordanian citizens, voting for Jordan's parliament and enjoying all the rights of foreign residents.

17-year-wait to end for refusenik Lerner

By DAVID BAKER
and Agencies

After a 17-year wait, noted scientist and refusenik leader Alexander Lerner of Moscow has received an exit visa to Israel, the Associated Press reported last night.

According to AP, the 74-year-old cybernetics expert said he was notified by the Soviet emigration authorities that he, along with his son, daughter-in-law, and two-year-old grandson were free to emigrate.

Lerner, a widower, had been denied an exit visa since 1971.

Georgia, USSR welcomes a son: Ashdod's mayor

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Ashdod Deputy Mayor Ephraim Gur has met with Soviet writers, directors, actors, and public figures during a week-long visit to his native Georgia, his office has reported.

Gur, who left Georgia for Israel 15 years ago, is currently in the final week of a month-long visit to the Soviet Union as head of an Israeli chess delegation.

The deputy mayor also met with the chairman of the Georgian Society for Culture and Friendship, who agreed to contribute to the creation of a Georgian library in Israel.

If you live in a wonderful city filled with fascinating people, and money is no particular problem, are you likely to be in need of detailed directories of services and classes on addictions, astrology, bodywork therapies, hypnosis, personal growth, psychics and metaphysics, and on through the alphabet to yoga and meditation?

I don't know the answer; but because I compulsively read odd publications, I brought back to Tiberias from San Francisco a copy of *Open Exchange*, a thick publication the size of a Friday supplement, stacks of which are available free in San Francisco shops. The issue I brought back is the 13th anniversary edition, and has a painting of a man and a woman on the cover. Each is romantically dressed and holds a fish. The caption is, "Your place or mine?"

The opening spread is on "How to

Searching, searching

GALILEE GAMBOLES

Choose a Therapist, with four therapists' autobiographies. The first is by Helene Schneider, who runs a counselling service called "Who Are You?" which, as the name implies, helps you find out who you are.

"I decided to get away for a summer and work on a kibbutz," she writes, after experiencing personal dissatisfaction. "The long days working alone fostered much introspection." Then came Zen and mysticism, a BA in psychology, an MA in transpersonal counselling, and...

But space doesn't permit. Besides, since we're smack into the Israel experience already on the opening page, I decided to leaf through all 64 doing a dirty thing — looking for Jewish names and their famous expertise in human problems.

Right! Right away, in the "Singles and Relationships" section, here's Marsha Winer's "The Jewish Connection" — the only 100 per cent personalized Jewish dating service in the Bay Area. Next page, under

"Sexuality," here's Joseph Kramer's "Body Electrics," with seminars for gay and bisexual men with techniques from tantric and Taoist traditions, and from Wilhelm Reich.

Computers. I am happy to say, are on the next page; and thank goodness Harry Bernstein is an instructor of a desktop publishing course. But we're back into human frailty soon after with Marsha Cohen's "Confident Communication" workshops: to help you stop being "ignored, misunderstood, or passed over." Alan Siegel does a four-day Polarity Therapy course; he's the author of *Polarity Therapy: the Power that Heals*.

Jane Kaplan and Julie Kovitz lead different systems to overcome compulsive eating and Lois Silverstein helps you develop creativity through writing.

But enough of this nastiness. Without regard to creed or background, here's the Triad Healing Centre ("if you are undergoing emotional and spiritual transition and desire assistance"), and here's the Women's Freeform Wrestling Association. Here's a continuing course on How to Become a Stand-up Comic, and here are Private Conga Drum lessons.

And here, by gum, are several insertions for the "Feldenkrais Method" — for those who've been here long enough to remember when Israel had the original Feldenkrais, who taught B-G to stand on his head. Well, it's going strong in San Francisco, Berkeley and Oakland.

There's Colon Hygiene (at the

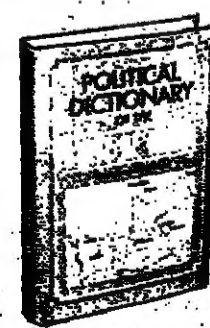
Body Cleansing Control Centre) and a Migraine Focus Group in Berkeley. There's Women's Growth and, even-handedly, Men's Growth, each with half a page.

Take your pick of Psychophysical Integration, Energetic Repatterning, Problem-Focused Couples Therapy, Creative Change, Bonding Therapy, Interpersonal Growth, Neuro-Linguistic Programming, Counselling by Telephone (\$25 first 20 minutes), and Vivation (Energy Transformation for Emotional Healing).

To be fair, there are also other modes. You can find a bit of tap dancing, as well as Social Dance for Shy People; Afro-Brazilian Dance Music and Self Defence. And photography, and home and garden, and real estate, and accent modification, and basic auto mechanics for men and women.

My problem now is this. I find it hard to throw this document out (as I do with most documents). And since San Francisco is usually in the forefront of everything American, and therefore Israeli — shouldn't I save it till the time comes for its reincarnation as a pattern for the local equivalent?

HELGA DUDMAN



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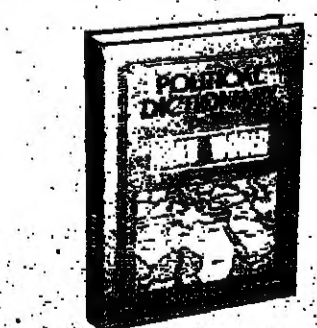
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FAREAST CUISINE MONTH
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AT THE
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Far East style eggrolls and side dishes
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On being Jewish in Japan

THERE IS probably no modern industrial society where Jews are less numerous, or conspicuous, than present-day Japan, with its estimated 1,000 Jews in a population of 120 million. Nor can it be said that their influence is disproportionate to their numbers. Nevertheless, for the Israeli or western Jewish visitor, some contact with the tiny Japanese Jewish community can be an instructive experience.

Actually, "Japanese Jewish" is somewhat misleading, since it evokes visions of Jews with Oriental physical attributes. The only ones in that category are Japanese converts married to Jewish partners, and (to a lesser extent) their offspring. Some of them can be seen at Sab-

Ernest Stock

bath eve services at Tokyo's Jewish Community Centre, and they seemed to be chanting the prayers with a bit more fervour than their fellow congregants of European physiognomy.

If it weren't for these mixed families chatting animatedly in Japanese after Kiddush, the Tokyo Centre, situated on a side street in a quiet residential area, might well be mistaken for one of its counterparts in a small midwestern city. The impression is reinforced by the Conservative-style service conducted by Rabbi Michael Schudrich, a young seminary graduate, by the bulletin board with the usual array of Hebrew classes and cultural events, and by the announcement of a planned excursion to a nearby U.S. air force base at the invitation of its Jewish chaplain.

Most of the centre's 170 member-families are in fact Americans who came to live and work in Japan for periods ranging from one year to indefinite. They are employed by the media or the military; in business, the foreign service, or the academy. A second major component are Central European Jews who arrived as refugees before, during, or after the war; a third, Israelis on assignment for shorter periods. (The security guard in the entrance lobby is, characteristically, an Israeli.)

Straddling the two latter categories is businessman Shaul Eisenberg, who divides his time between Japan and Israel, and who is said to have contributed generously to the cost of the Centre building. Visitors



Dorit Bar-Tur Noda, daughter of an Israeli ambassador, poses with her husband and Jewish-Japanese children in 1975. (K. Weinstein)

are greeted by name at the services, and are also invited to partake of the communal Sabbath meal. The charge—¥4,000 or almost \$30 per head—accurately reflects the prevailing price structure.

TALKING with Rabbi Schudrich in his office, and also later with a veteran member of the community at his home, I asked about the anti-Semitic books that have achieved best-sellerdom in recent months. (According to a *Wall Street Journal* report, 86 books with "Jews" in their titles were published here within 18 months, all but three of them of the type familiar in Germany 50 years ago. They range in violence from *The Jewish Conspiracy*, which attributes the appreciation of the yen against the U.S. dollar to a worldwide Jewish plot, to a translation of *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*. *Understand Japan* and *The World Will Come into View*, by Masami Uno, a member of the Diet, sold 600,000 copies.)

My interlocutors' responses were

surprisingly low-keyed. They tended to see the books as an attempt by clever scribblers to provide a simplistic explanation for the country's complex economic problems. Genuine anti-Semitism, they insisted, was alien to the Japanese character. But they also hinted that the Centre's board of trustees, acting as a kind of informal anti-defamation league, was taking some steps.

As it happened, the English-language *Japan Times* ran a front-page story just then which may well have been the result of such behind-the-scenes intervention. Under the headline, "Kuramari raps anti-Semitism in recent best-sellers," the paper reported Foreign Minister Kuramari's statement at a Diet committee that he "does not approve of books claiming that Jews have launched a global conspiracy against Japan" and that "Japan strongly opposes anti-Semitism and any racial discrimination and prejudice."

When I subsequently visited Japan's only other Jewish community,

in the port city of Kobe, I found its leaders not too happy about the front-page publicity; they thought it focused undue attention on a marginal phenomenon. At the moment they were more preoccupied with a local incident: their handsome synagogue-centre, located on a main thoroughfare in the fashionable Kitano district, had been smeared with swastikas.

The main purpose of my visit, however, was to spend Rosh Hashana with the Kobe community. Its official name is "The Jewish Community of Kansai," after the province comprising not only Kobe but also the large metropolises of Kyoto and Osaka. Yet with such grandiloquent nomenclature and spanning such a vast territory, the community has only 70 families on its rolls. There is no rabbi. The service on the first day of Rosh Hashana was attended by no more than 40, with the women segregated, unlike the case in Tokyo. Among those attending were a dozen American students taking a Japanese language course, and a visiting professor from San Diego. The Israeli influence was strong: at the buffet lunch served (free!) to the congregants in the social hall, Hebrew was at least as much the *lingua franca* as English. The president of the community, Victor Navsky, is a frequent commuter to Israel, where his children live; the secretary, a young New Zealander named Benson, learned the art of shofar blowing at *Aish HaTorah*, The Golden Age of Kobe Jewry, I was told, "was when Zion maintained a branch in the port and there were enough Israeli children to maintain a Hebrew school."

But even in its present reduced state the Kobe community offers the visitor a dignified Sephardi service in an esthetic setting (there is a definite Japanese element to the sanctuary's decor) and a true feeling of hospitality.

My son, who came along from Judenberg Nagoya where he is studying, felt good about having a Jewish community even a few hundred kilometres away, and to experience the "networking" that is part of it: in a foreign city, in a strange land, you find fellow Jews, and you feel at home. He has already booked a place for himself at next April's seder.

Dr. Stock is author of *Partners and Partnerships: A History of the U.S. and Chosen Instrument: The Jewish Agency in the First Decade of the State of Israel*.

After the brawl is over

Eliezer Whartman

IT'S ALL OVER but the scrounging. The slanging match has mercifully come to an end, and all of the Diaspora Zionists are now safely at home.

One important thing was achieved at the World Zionist Congress—a step towards religious pluralism was taken. In a surprise vote of 291-271 (Labour, Mapam, the Confederation, the Conservatives and the Reformers versus Likud, Mizrahi and Tehiya), the delegates called on the Knesset to give the rabbis of all streams in Judaism the right to perform all life-cycle events and other rabbinic functions.

But it was the proposals that failed to pass that most forcibly put their stamp on the Congress. The WZC voted down a resolution to democratize the Congress by introducing free elections for delegates representing Israel. The next congress will therefore be as undemocratic as the last, with the Knesset elections determining who will represent Israel at the Congress.

Another resolution that failed would have banned yordim from holding office in the WZO and Jewish Agency. It also would have barred from participation in future congresses any delegate who does not make aliya after taking part in two congresses. (This, predictably, split the Congress along geographical lines.)

Clearly, the majority of the delegates were not buying the strong appeal for their personal aliya made at the opening session by Mendel Kaplan, chairman of the Jewish Agency Board of Governors. "There has never been a great aliya from the West because of an absence of personal example of the leadership there. Either you make aliya or you are no leader," he said. (Kaplan lives in Johannesburg but has a second home in Jerusalem.)

Considering how little was

achieved by so many for so long, one can sympathize with outgoing chairman Arye Dutzin, who began his address to the Congress with the words "I stand before you, both humble and moved," which reminded the listener of Churchill's retort when someone praised Clement Attlee's modesty: "He has much to be modest about."

While there were many sad sights at the Congress, the most pathetic was that of the Conservative and Reform delegates. Conservative and Reform Jews in the U.S. and Canada fuel the WZO-Jewish Agency. Without their money the two organizations couldn't function. Instead of putting a merciful end to the two moribund, politics-ridden behemoths, and replacing them by a small, efficient foundation run by professionals, these delegates came hat in hand, to ask for a few crumbs from the overflowing table. Usually it's the *kabizim* (beggars) who ask for alms from the *g'vir* (rich man).

No crumbs at all went to the *magshimim*, the new olim who took their Zionism seriously and made aliya. Their plea for free elections of Israeli delegates to Zionist congresses, which would have given them some representation in the future, fell on deaf ears. Both the non-aliya delegates and the hardened Israeli politicians regarded them as *hutzpali* upstarts.

THE FUTURE looks bleak. World Jewry is coming apart at the seams. It is suffering from frightening demographic losses. The Congress decided that it must face the Diaspora, which left some people wondering which part of the anatomy would be facing Israel.

Personality cults may have gone

out of fashion years ago, but not so at the Congress where all hopes to save world Jewry are pinned on the new chairman who the delegates hope will prove to be a miracle worker. It is doubtful whether Moses himself could save the situation, when a majority of Jews prefer spiritual and cultural servitude in a land of plenty to freedom in the Promised Land. Many overseas delegates even protested against regarding the Diaspora as a less effective locale than Israel for preserving the Jewish people.

Clearly, both Israel and the Diaspora must be faced at the same time. If one Jewry is to be ascendant, it must prove its mettle, and this is precisely the point that was lost on the Congress. Most Jews will never of their own volition go from a land with a high standard of living to one with a lower one. Only a few idealists will do so, and then only if the country with the lower living standard shares their ideals. They will not go from one materialistic society to another, from a tolerant nation to an intolerant one, from a land attracting immigrants to one producing emigrants. But this topic, the quality of life in Israel, the magnet to attract people to come here, was never discussed.

There can be aliya without the Zionist movement (some say in spite of it), but there cannot be a Zionist movement without aliya. Perhaps there should be a smaller, less pretentious movement, limiting itself solely to aliya.

Today there is no difference between a Zionist and a "non-Zionist." Both are basically only "friends of Zion." If the WZO is to have any meaning today, the difference between Zionists and non-Zionists must be proclaimed loud and clear.

The writer is editor of the *Israel Press Service*, an independent feature syndicate.

LETTER FROM NEW YORK/Louis Bernstein

Big Apple's Jewish council

NEW YORK CITY, with its cornucopia of ethnic groups and races, is dominated politically by the Democratic Party and Jewish politicians. The three highest elected officials, the mayor, comptroller, and president of the city council are Jews. So are 15 of the 35 city councilmen, a figure which approximates the 30 per cent of the Big Apple's population that is Jewish. All the Jewish councilmen are Democrats, as are 34 out of the 35 councilmen.

There are no formal contacts between the Jewish councilmen. They are the establishment even though their number has declined slightly in accordance with the dip in the Jewish population residing within the city's limits.

The council's powers are limited by the city's charter and even these are informally reduced by the fact that the mayor and council are always from the same party. The council supports the mayor's legislative proposals. A strong point is its ability to hold open hearings even though its ability to act is limited.

Jewish issues manage to find their way to the council's agenda. The council recently used its authority to hold investigative hearings on the overcharges for Passover funds. It regularly grinds out resolutions that express sympathy for Jewish causes but can have no impact except for public relations.

Resolutions about Israel and Soviet Jewry are part of the council's regular legislative fare; another that sailed through the council a while ago mourned the death of Rabbi Moshe Feinstein. It also congratulated Congregation Temple Shalom on its mortgage burning and the Lu-

bavitcher Rabbi on his 85th birthday.

MORTON POVMAN is one of the most powerful members of the city council. He is chairman of its important rules committee, which is second only to the finance committee in importance. One of its functions is to approve mayoral appointments. He can recall only two incidents in which the council held up such an appointment: the mayor and council are political allies.

Povman's 18th councilman district is a heavy middle-class area in Queens. (He underlines it's 18 for *hai*). It includes the very wealthy Jamaica Estates area and the Orthodox enclave in Kew Garden Hills. It is 35 per cent white, 35 per cent minority (Black, Hispanic, Asian), and a third Jewish.

Racial and ethnic relationships are part and parcel of New York City and its politics. The council has five Black members and three Hispanics. Relationships are good. Unanimous consent is required for immediate consideration of all resolutions, and it is always forthcoming on resolutions of Jewish concern.

In Povman's district, there was a rash of muggings of children on the way to the yeshiva. The perpetrators were white. Povman worked with captain of the local police precinct. The area was saturated with police, and in a short time the attacks were terminated to the relief of all the district's citizens.

Only on infrequent occasions do New York City's Jews get excited over a municipal issue, and then are usually united. But Povman found his Jewish constituents divided and

quite vocal on the Gay Rights Bill. When he spoke at Reform temples, 90 per cent supported the bill, while the feedback from the Orthodox synagogues and *shulehs* was 90 per cent opposed. Although not an Orthodox Jew, Povman voted against the bill.

A councilman's job is considered part-time, and Povman enjoys a comfortable law practice. After 17 years of public service in which he, by almost all accounts, has excelled, he has had more than one opportunity to move up the political ladder. But he rejected a bid to go to Washington as a congressman because that would mean moving home and family, and leaving his law practice.

Povman is one of the senior district leaders in Queens, his real power base. This rather obscure political position is a key to party patronage. It usually designates the district's delegates to the party's political convention. At present, Povman is feeling out public opinion on the slew of Democratic candidates for the presidency.

The councilman recently was nosed out in his bid for leadership of the powerful Queens County Democratic committee. His loss was a residue from the political scandals which saw the indictment and then suicide of Donald Manes and the conviction of other prominent Jewish politicians in the borough, his political friends and allies.

The writer is rabbi of Young Israel of Windsor Park and Professor of Jewish Studies at Yeshiva University.

The Jewish World is edited by Aryeh Rubinstein.

The Tokyo problem: What can be done

IT IS the lack of direct contact, coupled with Japan's island-nation mentality and its highly homogeneous people and relative cultural insularity, that has allowed the creation of false images and stereotypes (not all of them negative) of Jews and Judaism among a significant element in the population of 121 million, 99 per cent of whom have probably never met a Jew.

Also shaping Japanese views of Jews may be Japan's attitude toward Israel. Historically, the Middle East was not an area of much concern to Japan. Oil was plentiful and cheap, the Japanese had no major geopolitical interests in the region. But, particularly after the 1973 Yom Kippur War, all this changed.

Japan hurriedly realigned its foreign policy to curry favour with the

David A. Harris

Arab states and maintain the vital oil flow. (Japan is more dependent on imported energy resources than any other major industrialized country.) Diplomatic ties with Jerusalem continued, despite Arab pressure to sever them, but they were best characterized as cautious and low-profile.

The state of Japanese-Israeli relations is rather dramatically revealed in the following facts:

- No Japanese cabinet-level figure has ever officially visited Israel.
- In 1981, Prime Minister Suzuki became the first head of a major non-Communist country to receive

Yasser Arafat.

- No Japanese economic delegation has ever visited Israel.
- Despite their repeated denials, Japanese government ministries have assisted many Japanese companies in complying with the Arab boycott against Israel, according to experts in the U.S. and Israel.

What can be done to promote greater understanding between the Japanese and the Jews? Unfortunately, as Prof. David Goodman of the University of Illinois noted, "Few Japanese intellectuals of stature have stood up to openly condemn anti-Semitism." And world Jewry has hitherto devoted too little attention to Japan.

Future programme possibilities aimed at promoting mutual understanding include symposia in Japan

on Jewish themes, co-sponsored by respected Japanese institutions; reciprocal exchanges hosted by leading treatment of Jewish subjects—Jewish history, Holocaust, Judaism, Israel—in the Japanese educational system and the media.

Bernard Krisher, former Tokyo correspondent for *Newsweek* and *Fortune*, adds the need for a Jewish or Hebrew Cultural Centre in Tokyo, a project the small Tokyo Jewish community would be unable to undertake by itself.

Despite the press of other compelling issues in Jewish life, it would be a mistake to ignore the rapidly growing significance of Japan on the world scene.

The writer is Washington representative of the American Jewish Committee.

STAMPS/Harvey Wolinetz

A VISIT to the Hague, in the Netherlands, would be incomplete without a stop at the miniature town of Madurodam. This fairy tale town was built as a memorial to Captain George Maduro by his parents. A captain in the Dutch army in World War II, Maduro was captured by the Nazis and died in the Dachau concentration camp in 1945.

The Maduro family and its company were recently featured on a set of three stamps released by the Netherlands Antilles, a group of well-known Caribbean tourist and vacation islands under Dutch control. The stamps mark the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Maduro Holdings by Salmon Elias Levi Maduro. The travel, shipping and transportation conglomerate is based in Willemstad, capital of the island of Curacao.

The firm also has subsidiaries in the Netherlands, Venezuela (Curacao is approximately 60 kms. off the Venezuelan coast), the U.S., and on the other islands of the Netherlands Antilles. The family traces its beginnings on the island to 1672 and the stamps reflect the role played by the Maduro family in the development of the island's commerce and industry.

The 70 cents stamp shows the company emblem over a map of the Americas, the 85 cents stamp features symbols of the company's activities, and the 90 cents stamp depicts a portrait of the founding father, Elias Maduro.

The Jewish presence on the island of Curacao was previously noted by earlier stamp issues featuring the Mikve Israel-Emanuel synagogue, oldest in the Western hemisphere. The stamps celebrated the 250th anniversary of the synagogue, which was built in 1732, and show interior and exterior views of the building.

The first Jew, Samuel Coheno, landed on Curacao in 1634 with a Dutch expeditionary fleet that captured the island from Spain. In 1652 David Nussy received a charter to encourage settlement of Curacao, and the first congregation was organized in 1659. The Jewish community prospered to such an extent that it gave financial support to aid in the construction of two of the oldest synagogues in the U.S., Shearith Israel in New York City, and Touro Synagogue in Rhode Island.

As they have for over 300 years, Jews continue to play a leading role in the island economy, and are active in the freepoint stores and the professions.

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A new lingua franca

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

Jerusalem Post Reporter

YIDDISH has long been considered the common language for Ashkenazi Jews. However, if there is any indicator that Israel at 40, has come of age, it is the fact that Jews from different parts of the world are increasingly communicating with each other in Hebrew.

This reporter, recently returned from Europe, conversed with Jews in Switzerland, Italy and Poland primarily in Hebrew. Though Yiddish is still an ice-breaker in synagogues, kosher restaurants and Jewish community clubs, there seems to be a greater desire among people fluent in both Hebrew and Yiddish to speak in Hebrew.

Among young people, it is not so much a matter of choice. Outside of the religious and Bundist factions, Yiddish is not widely known among the post-Statehood generation. If they have received a Jewish education, they have been taught Hebrew and not Yiddish.

At the kosher restaurant in Basel, the flow of Hebrew is partly due to the fact that Meir, one of the waiters, is an Israeli. Meir speaks the Swiss brand of German quite well, but his regular clients, most of whom are university students and business executives, prefer to address him in his native tongue. Similarly in Zurich, the proprietors of the kosher restaurant juggle between Yiddish, Hebrew and Swiss-German depending on the clientele, but on the two occasions on which I was there, Hebrew outpaced the other two languages.

As for Poland, it came as a delightful surprise to converse in Hebrew with elderly Jews culling memories of what they learned at the Hebrew Gymnasium in the pre-war years. The truth is that most of them have a far better command of Yiddish, but with the renewal of relations between Poland and Israel, they'd rather speak a broken Hebrew than no Hebrew at all.

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היפרכול
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Declaration of rights

NA'AMAT expects more than half-a-million men, women and teenagers (over 16) to sign its "Declaration of the Rights of Women."

The declaration, revealed earlier this month when the organization launched its annual Status of Women Month, is based on the clause in the Declaration of Independence promising complete equality regardless of religion, race and sex.

Sexual equality, charged Na'amat secretary-general Masha Lubelsky, has not yet been accomplished in the country. The declaration — which, together with the signatures collected will be presented to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir on International Women's Day next March — calls among other things for equal standing for women and men in every public body including those dealing with religion, and equal opportunities for employment and job advancement. It urges that women fulfill their obligation to serve in the army or do national service and urges them to work for greater understanding between Jews and Arabs and against racism.

This last point was added to the

Lea Levavi

document at the request of Na'amat's Arab women department, headed by Nelly Karkaby, as was a clause in the Arab translation of the declaration referring to the right of unmarried women to be mothers (since unwed mothers are not accepted in Arab society) and omits the subject of army or national service.

Na'amat has also, on the occasion of its women's status month, prepared a booklet entitled "Women's Account," outlining what has been achieved toward equality for women in the 40 years of statehood and what still remains to be done.

A SYMPOSIUM on what women have accomplished since the establishment of the state and on what remains for them to achieve will be the first of three special events planned by the Council of Women's Organizations in Israel to celebrate the state's 40th anniversary.

The symposium, to be held

next Thursday (Dec. 24 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.) at Wizo's Rebecca Sieff House in Tel Aviv, will include addresses by the new adviser to the prime minister on women's status, Eritia Simha, by council chairman Michal Zmorah-Cohen, and by Haifa University sociologist Dr. Ruth Katz.

The second event, to be held close to Independence Day, will be presentation of awards to about a dozen women who have distinguished themselves in their professions. Similar awards were made by the council 10 years ago, and recipients included pianist Pinna Saltzman, artist Anna Ticho and Prof. Bracha Ramot. Nominations for this year's awards may be sent in writing to the council's office at 1 Mapu Street, Jerusalem.

The final event will be an international conference of Jewish women leaders, beginning April 25 and lasting four days, in Jerusalem. Women who have attained leadership positions in organizational frameworks, in politics, economics, academic life or other fields will gather to discuss Jewish identity and Zionism.

Shaking Japan's colleges

Eric Hall

TOKYO (Reuter) — Reform of Japan's rigid education system is more talked about than acted upon.

But Hiroshi Kurimoto believes that unless change comes fast, the nation will not only lose its chance to make young people internationally-minded but will destroy the business skills on which its economy depends.

Kurimoto, 52, head of the Nagoya University of Commerce and one of the youngest university presidents in Japan, is going against tradition to try to create a new businessman.

His spacious campus — with trimmed lawns, quiet tree-lined walks and lakes and gleaming 21st century-style buildings — is packed with computers, which he believes are the key to success in modern business and in education.

Our old system is producing students who have no modern business skills. They are of almost no use," he said in his office at the campus in the countryside outside Nagoya, Japan's third biggest and most central city.

"In the old system, the professor speaks and the students listen. There is no discussion. In their exams, they must choose one answer, and only one is correct. How can we say whether the student has really understood?"

"In business today, the man who only listens is not important, the man who expresses his opinion is." Computers, Kurimoto believes, get round the overbearing presence of the traditional professor by giving the students direct access to knowledge and thereby force the teacher to act more as a guide in a search for enlightenment.

Nagoya University, with about 3,000 students, has 410 computer terminals and is linked into a huge U.S. database and information transfer system called Bitnet.

The students do their work on the computers and transfer it to teachers' terminals for assessment.

Kurimoto cannot find enough teachers in Japan who fit into his system and has had to search for qualified Japanese staff abroad.

The search is full of irony because his late father, who founded the university in 1935, had studied in Canada and faced discrimination when he returned to Japan in 1930 looking for a job.

"You are the graduate of a foreign university," Kurimoto's father was told by a senior manager of the Mitsubishi company in Nagoya. "Even Japanese university graduates cannot get work. Why should I give you a job?"

Such discrimination against people with experience abroad still exists and could severely harm Japan's prospects, said Kurimoto.

He said universities would have to compete strongly to survive after 1997 when the number of 18-year-olds in Japan is projected to peak at 2.05 million and drop. Her noted that "student consumerism" was already emerging with parents looking for a good return on the high fees and living costs at universities.

He also sees an outdated emphasis in Japan on state education at the expense of private schools.

In 1986, the government spent an average 2.08 million yen (\$14,800) on each state student, 14 times as much as on private students.

But, he added, private universities were already more important to the economy than the prestigious state universities: Seventy-five per cent of graduates are from the private sector.

"They may not be as good on average as students from the state schools but it is they who are supporting our economy now. Over half top-ranking businessmen are now from private schools. This will increase," he said.

"It is a sign of the times that our new prime minister Noboru Takeshita had a private education."



Hadassah officers recently dedicate the site of the organization's latest project, a cultural centre at Kibbutz Ketura. The Arava settlement was founded by Hadassah's Young Judea youth movement, and the centre is to be named for Hadassah past president Charlotte Jacobson, who is seen second from right. (Eli Jacobson)

The perils of picking

PICKER'S PALSY syndrome — a quite rare condition that affects only kibbutzniks and other agricultural workers — was recently identified by orthopedists at Poriya government hospital in Tiberias. The doctors, writing in the Israel Medical Association's bi-weekly journal *Harefuah*, believe that they are the first to make the connection between the occupation and the affliction.

The first case involved a 21-year-old woman who reached the emergency room with a feeling of weakness and one "dragging leg." She underwent all kinds of tests, including a spinal tap, but except for her leg, whose muscle was paralyzed, was found to be completely healthy.

Doctors learned that she had worked in her kibbutz the day before picking melons. She demonstrated the position — legs bent and sitting on her haunches — that she was in all day while doing the work. The problem was dubbed "picker's palsy." After eight weeks of rest at home, the condition had disappeared of its own accord and she was able to go back to work.

The second case involved a 19-year-old recently demobilized woman soldier. She volunteered to work in a kibbutz in harvesting and pruning that required a lot of knee-bending. She, too, reached the emergency room with extreme weakness and loss of sensation in the legs. Doctors made the diagnosis more easily this time, thanks to their previous experience. With no treatment except rest, the volunteer picker was able to function normally.

The authors of the article said they hoped their colleagues would be more aware of the condition, and would consider the existence of "picker's palsy" whenever agricultural workers came in complaining about "dragged legs."

RECONNECTING a severed spinal cord has long been considered an impossibility, forcing people with such injuries to learn to live with irreversible paralysis. Now, for the first time, neuroscientists have succeeded in re-attaching nerve cells in the spinal cords of laboratory rats.

It's still a long haul before the surgery will be performed on humans, but the breakthrough will no doubt give hope to paraplegics. The success was announced at last month's meeting in New Orleans of the Society for Neuroscience, and reported in the latest issue of the British weekly *New Scientist*.

Jerry Silver of Case Western Reserve University in Ohio disclosed that he had managed to restore feeling in the toes of lab rats which had had one of their sensory nerves crushed at the point where it enters the spinal cord. Sensory nerve cells send fibres both into the spinal cord and out to the skin where they gather information about touch and pain. A peripheral fibre can regenerate if damaged, but the central



Judy Siegel-Itzkovich



fibres — the one that intersects with the spinal cord to send information to the brain — never reconnects by itself.

Using cells called astrocytes from an 18-day-old rat embryo, Silver coated a piece of nitrocellulose to make a bridge between the crushed nerves and the spinal cord. Some of the nerve cells grew along the bridge, sticking to the astrocytes, and re-entered the spinal cord. As a result, when Silver stimulated the area of skin on the toes that had become numb, they responded to sensation.

"Re-wiring" the human central nervous system won't be easy, and errors could be disastrous. If only fibres that register pain were reconnected, the person would suffer terribly. There is also a problem of how to obtain the donated embryonic tissue, as scientists are arguing about the ethical problems of using human embryos as "raw material" for repairing human diseases. Silver re-attached crushed cells, but has not yet tried the procedure on nerves that had been cleanly severed. Crushed nerves occur quite often in humans, as in a dislocated spinal disc, but traffic accidents or gunshot wounds can sever the cord.

However, Silver says he is sufficiently encouraged by his success so far to go on to tackle these major problems.

A CALIFORNIA couple, Brenda and Michael Weiner, decided to donate organs from their son's body even before he was born. The sad story involves a fetus who, from ultrasound tests, has been found to

lack vital parts of his brain. Brenda's doctors have declared that he has absolutely no chance of surviving more than three days after birth. The parents decided to continue with the pregnancy and to donate the baby's vital organs to other babies after his death. Doctors at Loma Linda Hospital have promised to attach the baby to a heart-lung machine after the birth, and not to remove any organs until after he dies.

ALCOHOL abuse goes back to antiquity, and rabbis of the talmudic period were very concerned about the danger to the Jewish community of excessive drinking. Prof. Leon Hankoff of the New Jersey Medical School discussed this topic at the recent Hebrew University symposium on "Medicine in Bible and Talmud" held in Jerusalem.

Hankoff said that Judaism rejects drunkenness, but does not advocate abstinence. In order to preserve a moderate attitude towards drinking, Judaism stresses the ceremonial use of wine, which may, indirectly, inhibit casual drinking of a non-ritual nature. The biblical stories of Noah and Lot and their excess drinking is a reminder to Jews about the dangers of alcoholism, said Hankoff. In addition, the opportunities for social drinking are limited by restrictions regarding wine and other alcoholic beverages made by or consumed with gentiles.

WHO IS A better tennis player, Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin or his U.S. counterpart, Frank Carlucci? Ruth Kedar of the Israel Tennis Centre in Ramat Hasharon bets on Carlucci. Rabin is an energetic and determined player, but he has inadequate breathing ability, due to his heavy smoking, said Kedar, who has watched him play. "If he would stop smoking, he would be a much better player," she says. Carlucci, an avid player, does not smoke.

GALEI ZAHAL radio will conclude tomorrow a week-long series of anti-smoking spots initiated by the Israel Society for the Prevention of Smoking. Seven five-minute "spots" have been broadcast since the beginning of Hanukka. The jingle includes the statement: "Most impotent men smoke. Do you smoke?"

Experts explain that in fact, 80 per cent of impotent men smoke, and that impotence is often, the result of the constriction of blood vessels caused by nicotine. Interviews were conducted with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who said he never smoked, even in the most tense situations, and Health Minister Shoshana Arbeli-Almosino, who admitted to smoking two packs a day. 20 years ago but who has since given it up. MK Yossi Sarid, a year after his heart attack, said that "cigarettes tried to kill me, so I'm out to kill cigarettes."

Chinese fat in the fire

Steven Nisbet

BEIJING (Reuter) — Being old or fat is no longer fashionable in China, but loss of face remains a major preoccupation and, for foreigners coping with life here, patience is a virtue.

In a land prone to famine through the centuries, it was long traditional to wish friends additional weight. But now doctors push people to healthier diets, and the country's first anti-obesity clinic has opened in Beijing.

New arrivals used to be advised it was a gaffe in a country of ancestor worship to tell someone he looked young. But some people here say that's an old-fashioned idea.

Beautician's shops have sprung up in the capital, and a cult of youth (or at least of 50- to 60-year-olds) has broken out in the Communist Party with some old veterans being urged to retire.

Preoccupation with not losing face remains a very Chinese characteristic as you quickly find out if you ask for directions in the street.

You will usually be sent confidently off, first in one direction and then another, until you give up or chance on someone who really knows the place you want. The others would rather guess blindly than

admit ignorance. One quirk of Chinese society is that coping with some situations can be easier if you don't speak Chinese or at least disguise the fact that you do.

Even overseas Chinese visiting their ancestral homeland sometimes prefer to speak English because they find the social distance thus created earns them more respect from officials.

SOME FOREIGNERS use what a West German resident called the boredom curve to make Chinese officials tire of obstructing the purchase of a rail ticket or the renting of a hotel room.

Infinite patience and smiling persistence are needed, while feigned or real incomprehension of what the official is saying can speed the process.

A train attendant who said there were no free seats while standing beside three empty carriages gave up being obstructive when a smiling foreign couple said politely in English that everything was all right, filed past and took their seats.

Today is edited by Amy Levinson.

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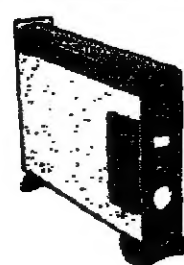
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SPORTS

Veterans resurgent

By DON GOULD
TEL AVIV - The miracle for which all basketball aficionados have been waiting - some hopefully and some apprehensively, depending on whether they are supporters of Maccabi Tel Aviv or not - nearly occurred last night, suitably enough on Hanukkah. This, of course, is the defeat of Maccabi Tel Aviv in a league game.

Maccabi Ramat Gan all but pulled off the trick. At the half they led by no fewer than 21 points, and it seemed that the game was in the Ramat Gan bag to take home with them.

But two Tel Aviv veterans had other ideas. Mickey Berkowitz and Motti Aroesti played inspired basketball to pull Tel Aviv to a 91-84 victory. Maccabi Tel Aviv coach Ralph Klein admitted after the game that his team had shown a lack of concentration and a disdain for rebounds that cost them very dear.

Then came the second half, with Mickey superlative in defence. There used to be a time when critics said that he was only an offensive player - they can say no longer.

Inspired by his example, Maccabi Tel Aviv started to display their true form. Kevin Magee and Ken Barlow found their touch. Against this resolute defence and accurate offence, Maccabi Ramat Gan wilted, lost self-confidence and concentration.

At the Ussishkin Stadium, Hapoel Tel Aviv jumped all over Hapoel Holon in the first half of their game at the Ussishkin Stadium here on their way to an 84-68 victory.

The win gives Hapoel Tel Aviv and Hapoel Holon identical 8-3 records at the end of the first half of the season, and also keeps alive Hapoel Tel Aviv's home-court winning streak - they have yet to lose at Ussishkin.



OLD PLAYERS NEVER QUIT. Mickey Berkowitz showed determination as well as skill last night. (Hanoeh Gutmann)

Dawson entered the game with a 27.8 average per game - before Townes put the clamps on him. Mercer got 22 and Dzelal 19. For Holon, Zisman scored 20 points (15 in the second half) and Kenny Orange 17.

Last night's other results: Hapoel Gali Elyon 94, Elitzur Ramat 70; Be'er Tel Aviv 104, Maccabi Haifa 109; Hapoel Haifa 97, Hapoel Jerusalem 95 (in overtime); Elitzur Netanya 99, Maccabi Netanya 78.

	W	L	Pct.	Points
1. Maccabi Tel Aviv	8	3	.727	1074-924
2. Hapoel Tel Aviv	8	3	.727	1011-914
3. Hapoel Holon	8	3	.727	980-890
4. Gali Elyon	7	4	.636	960-903
5. Maccabi Ramat Gan	7	4	.636	957-904
6. Elitzur Netanya	7	4	.636	971-908
7. Hapoel Haifa	5	6	.455	894-893
8. Maccabi Haifa	5	6	.455	1028-1040
9. Hapoel Netanya	5	6	.455	917-1008
10. Hapoel Jerusalem	3	9	.250	950-998
11. Be'er Tel Aviv	3	9	.250	974-1026
12. Maccabi Netanya	0	11	.000	814-1018

EUROPEAN SOCCER

Napoli and Roma end year with feast of goals

ROME (Reuters) - Diego Maradona helped unbeaten Napoli to a 4-1 win over a depleted Verona, while Massimo Agostini scored twice in Roma's 5-1 rout of Pescara in the last matches of 1987 in the Italian first division on Sunday.

Argentine World Cup captain Maradona scored once but had a penalty saved 10 minutes from the finish.

However, Bruno Giordano sealed Napoli's success with his second goal of the match in the 90th minute, allowing the defending champions to end the year with a three-point lead at the top of the table.

In the Milan derby, where tight security was in place following last week's near tragic firework hooliganism, second-placed AC Milan beat Internazionale 1-0 thanks to a third minute own goal by Riccardo Ferri.

In Rome, Franco Tancredi was back in goal, fully recovered from being hit by two fireworks last week, to watch his Roma team-mate Massimo Agostini score in each half and Roberto Policiano get an 89th minute goal.

In Turin, Werder International San Rush showed some sparks of his old form and was

NFL: Late race for playoff spots

Receiver Rice jumps to record

NEW YORK (AP) - The Indianapolis Colts moved closer to their first playoff berth in a decade on Sunday, and the Denver Broncos clinched a playoff spot even though they didn't play.

The Colts clinched their first winning season in a decade with a 20-7 victory over San Diego and are tied with Miami for the AFC East lead at 8-6 heading into the final week of the season.

Miami, which kept its playoff hopes alive with a 23-21 victory over Washington on Sunday night, can only win the division if they beat New England next Monday night and the Colts lose to the Bucs.

If the Dolphins and Colts both win, Miami will gain a wild card if Pittsburgh, Houston and San Diego lose their final games.

Miami's victory over Washington knocked out the Buffalo Bills, who lost 13-7 to New England. The Patriots are still in the running for a playoff slot.

In San Francisco, 49ers' Jerry Rice jumped into the NFL record-books when he leaped for his first touchdown catch on Sunday, then added his 20th of the season to further distinguish himself as perhaps football's finest receiver ever.

Rice, who also scored a touchdown on a reverse earlier in the 49ers' 35-7 Sunday rout of the Atlanta Falcons, had three in a game for the fourth time this season and set a second NFL record by catching a touchdown pass in his 12th consecutive game.

The Miami Dolphins' Mark Clayton set the old mark of 18 touchdowns in 1984. The old record for TD catches in consecutive games was shared by Rice, Elroy "Crazy Legs" Hirsch of the Los Angeles Rams and Buddy Dial of the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Hirsch's streak was in 1950-51. Dial's in 1959-60.

Sylvester Stamps of the Falcons and Joe Cribbs of the 49ers scored on consecutive kickoff returns, only the third time this has occurred in NFL history.

Stamps raced 97 yards for his touchdown after the 49ers had taken a 14-0 lead early in the third period on Rice's record-setting 19th touchdown reception of the season. Cribbs scored 18 seconds after Stamps, breaking several tackles on his 93-yard touchdown return.

There also were consecutive touchdown kickoff returns in a November 4, 1951 game between the old New York Yankees and the New York Giants, and in a December 23, 1973 game between the St. Louis Cardinals and the Washington Redskins.

In the 1951 game, the Yankees' Buddy Young ran for 51 yards and Edmond Tunnell went 100 yards for the Giants. Don Shy of the Cardinals and Herb Mulkey of the Redskins each ran for 97 yards.

In Denver, John Elway passed for 237 yards and a touchdown and the Denver Broncos without Kansas City's fourth-quarter rally to post a 20-17 victory on Saturday and move a step closer to the NFL playoffs.

The Chiefs scored with 6:36 left and had a chance to tie the game in the final minute, but Nick Lowmy missed a 37-yard field goal attempt with 34 seconds to play.

Denver raised its record to 9-4-1 - the best in the American Conference. Denver could clinch the home-field advantage throughout the playoffs with a victory over San Diego in the regular-season finale next week.

The lost dropped Kansas City to 3-11.

Denver scored on its only three possessions of the first half to take a seemingly commanding 17-3 lead.

Gene Lang's 3-yard run capped a 70-yard drive in the second period. Denver made it 10-0 early in the second period on Rich Kirsch's 20-yard field goal.

Following a Kansas City field goal, Elway took the Broncos 80 yards in 13 plays, flipping an 8-yard scoring loss to running back Sammy Winder.

The Chiefs countered quickly in the second half as Herman Heard dashed off the left side, cut back to midfield and scampered 64 yards for a td.

Another Kansas field goal put Denver up 20-10 before Kansas City cut the deficit to 20-17 on Ed McCaffrey's 34-yard pass to Stephane Paige with 6:36 remaining.

Scores in other NFL weekend games - Saturday New York Giants 20, Green Bay 10; Denver 26, Kansas City 17; Sunday: Minnesota 17, Detroit 14; New England 13, Buffalo 7; New Orleans 41, Cincinnati 34; Philadelphia 36, New York Jets 27; Houston 24, Pittsburgh 16; Seattle 34, Chicago 21; San Francisco 35, Atlanta 7; St. Louis 31, Tampa Bay 14; Indianapolis 20, San Diego Chargers 7.

AMERICAN CONFERENCE EAST

	W	L	T	Pct.	Points
Indianapolis	9	4	1	.727	1074-924
Detroit	8	5	1	.619	980-903
Buffalo	8	5	1	.619	957-904
New England	8	5	1	.619	971-908
N.Y. Jets	7	6	1	.545	960-903

CENTRAL

	W	L	T	Pct.	Points
Cleveland	9	4	1	.727	1074-924
Houston	8	5	1	.619	980-903
Philadelphia	8	5	1	.619	957-904
Cincinnati	7	6	1	.545	971-908

WEST

	W	L	T	Pct.	Points
Denver	9	4	1	.727	1074-924
Seattle	8	5	1	.619	980-903
San Diego	8	5	1	.619	957-904
L.A. Raiders	7	6	1	.545	971-908
Kansas City	3	11	0	.250	960-903

NATIONAL CONFERENCE EAST

	W	L	T	Pct.	Points
Washington	9	4	1	.727	1074-924
San Francisco	8	5	1	.619	980-903
San Antonio	8	5	1	.619	957-904
Dallas	7	6	1	.545	971-908
N.Y. Giants	7	6	1	.545	960-903

CENTRAL

	W	L	T	Pct.	Points
Chicago	9	4	1	.727	1074-924
Green Bay	8	5	1	.619	980-903
Tampa Bay	8	5	1	.619	957-904
Detroit	7	6	1	.545	971-908

WEST

	W	L	T	Pct.	Points
San Francisco	9	4	1	.727	1074-924
L.A. Rams	8	5	1	.619	980-903
Atlanta	8	5	1	.619	957-904
Arizona	7	6	1	.545	971-908

* Qualified playoff berth

NBA Celtics giving nothing away

NEW YORK (AP) - The Boston Celtics, who have struggled lately, are not quite ready to relinquish control of the NBA's Atlantic Division.

They emphatically made that point clear on Sunday night with a 124-87 victory over the Philadelphia 76ers, who would have taken a percentage-point lead in the Division with a victory at Boston Garden.

The Celtics, who are 8-8 since starting the season 6-0, have won the division four consecutive seasons. A late flurry by the 76ers after they trailed 116-67 did not prevent them from suffering their worst regular-season defeat ever against the Celtics. The 37-point defeat surpassed the previous biggest margin of 34 on November 29, 1963.

Charles Barkley scored 18 points and had just two rebounds while playing just 25 minutes for Philadelphia.

"It was a good win for them, but I don't think they are jumping ahead," Barkley said. "What we're going to do, I'll say it, it's just a game."

Lakers 103, Sonics 94

Los Angeles won its sixth consecutive game as Michael Thompson scored 22 points and the Lakers led 4-0, 7-0, 15-0, 21-0, 27-0, 33-0, 39-0, 45-0, 51-0, 57-0, 63-0, 69-0, 75-0, 81-0, 87-0, 93-0, 99-0, 105-0, 111-0, 117-0, 123-0, 129-0, 135-0, 141-0, 147-0, 153-0, 159-0, 165-0, 171-0, 177-0, 183-0, 189-0, 195-0, 201-0, 207-0, 213-0, 219-0, 225-0, 231-0, 237-0, 243-0, 249-0, 255-0, 261-0, 267-0, 273-0, 279-0, 285-0, 291-0, 297-0, 303-0, 309-0, 315-0, 321-0, 327-0, 333-0, 339-0, 345-0, 351-0, 357-0, 363-0, 369-0, 375-0, 381-0, 387-0, 393-0, 399-0, 405-0, 411-0, 417-0, 423-0, 429-0, 435-0, 441-0, 447-0, 453-0, 459-0, 465-0, 471-0, 477-0, 483-0, 489-0, 495-0, 501-0, 507-0, 513-0, 519-0, 525-0, 531-0, 537-0, 543-0, 549-0, 555-0, 561-0, 567-0, 573-0, 579-0, 585-0, 591-0, 597-0, 603-0, 609-0, 615-0, 621-0, 627-0, 633-0, 639-0, 645-0, 651-0, 657-0, 663-0, 669-0, 675-0, 681-0, 687-0, 693-0, 699-0, 705-0, 711-0, 717-0, 723-0, 729-0, 735-0, 741-0, 747-0, 753-0, 759-0, 765-0, 771-0, 777-0, 783-0, 789-0, 795-0, 801-0, 807-0, 813-0, 819-0, 825-0, 831-0, 837-0, 843-0, 849-0, 855-0, 861-0, 867-0, 873-0, 879-0, 885-0, 891-0, 897-0, 903-0, 909-0, 915-0, 921-0, 927-0, 933-0, 939-0, 945-0, 951-0, 957-0, 963-0, 969-0, 975-0, 981-0, 987-0, 993-0, 999-0, 1005-0, 1011-0, 1017-0, 1023-0, 1029-0, 1035-0, 1041-0, 1047-0, 1053-0, 1059-0, 1065-0, 1071-0, 1077-0, 1083-0, 1089-0, 1095-0, 1101-0, 1107-0, 1113-0, 1119-0, 1125-0, 1131-0, 1137-0, 1143-0, 1149-0, 1155-0, 1161-0, 1167-0, 1173-0, 1179-0, 1185-0, 1191-0, 1197-0, 1203-0, 1209-0, 1215-0, 1221-0, 1227-0, 1233-0, 1239-0, 1245-0, 1251-0, 1257-0, 1263-0, 1269-0, 1275-0, 1281-0, 1287-0, 1293-0, 1299-0, 1305-0, 1311-0, 1317-0, 1323-0, 1329-0, 1335-0, 1341-0, 1347-0, 1353-0, 1359-0, 1365-0, 1371-0, 1377-0, 1383-0, 1389-0, 1395-0, 1401-0, 1407-0, 1413-0, 1419-0, 1425-0, 1431-0, 1437-0, 1443-0, 1449-0, 1455-0, 1461-0, 1467-0, 1473-0, 1479-0, 1485-0, 1491-0, 1497-0, 1503-0, 1509-0, 1515-0, 1521-0, 1527-0, 1533-0, 1539-0, 1545-0, 1551-0, 1557-0, 1563-0, 1569-0, 1575-0, 1581-0, 1587-0, 1593-0, 1599-0, 1605-0, 1611-0, 1617-0, 1623-0, 1629-0, 1635-0, 1641-0, 1647-0, 1653-0, 1659-0, 1665-0, 1671-0, 1677-0, 1683-0, 1689-0, 1695-0, 1701-0, 1707-0, 1713-0, 1719-0, 1725-0, 1731-0, 1737-0, 1743-0, 1749-0, 1755-0, 1761-0, 1767-0, 1773-0, 1779-0, 1785-0, 1791-0, 1797-0, 1803-0, 1809-0, 1815-0, 1821-0, 1827-0, 1833-0, 1839-0, 1845-0, 1851-0, 1857-0, 1863-0, 1869-0, 1875-0, 1881-0, 1887-0, 1893-0, 1899-0, 1905-0, 1911-0, 1917-0, 1923-0, 1929-0, 1935-0, 1941-0, 1947-0, 1953-0, 1959-0, 1965-0, 1971-0, 1977-0, 1983-0, 1989-0, 1995-0, 2001-0, 2007-0, 2013-0, 2019-0, 2025-0, 2031-0, 2037-0, 2043-0, 2049-0, 2055-0, 2061-0, 2067-0, 2073-0, 2079-0, 2085-0, 2091-0, 2097-0, 2103-0, 2109-0, 2115-0, 2121-0, 2127-0, 2133-0, 2139-0, 2145-0, 2151-0, 2157-0, 2163-0, 2169-0, 2175-0, 2181-0, 2187-0, 2193-0, 2199-0, 2205-0, 2211-0, 2217-0, 2223-0, 2229-0, 2235-0, 2241-0, 2247-0, 2253-0, 2259-0, 2265-0, 2271-0, 2277-0, 2283-0, 2289-0, 2295-0, 2301-0, 2307-0, 2313-0, 2319-0, 2325-0, 2331-0, 2337-0, 2343-0, 2349-0, 2355-0, 2361-0, 2367-0, 2373-0, 2379-0, 2385-0, 2391-0, 2397-0, 2403-0, 2409-0, 2415-0, 2421-0, 2427-0, 2433-0, 2439-0, 2445-0, 2451-0, 2457-0, 2463-0, 2469-0, 2475-0, 2481-0, 2487-0, 2493-0, 2499-0, 2505-0, 2511-0, 2517-0, 2523-0, 2529-0, 2535-0, 2541-0, 2547-0, 2553-0, 2559-0, 2565-0, 2571-0, 2577-0, 2583-0, 2589-0, 2595-0, 2601-0, 2607-0, 2613-0, 2619-0, 2625-0, 2631-0, 2637-0, 2643-0, 2649-0, 2655-0, 2661-0, 2667-0, 2673-0, 2679-0, 2685-0, 2691-0, 2697-0, 2703-0, 2709-0, 2715-0, 2721-0, 2727-0, 2733-0, 2739-0, 2745-0, 2751-0, 2757-0, 2763-0, 2769-0, 2775-0, 2781-0, 2787-0, 2793-0, 2799-0, 2805-0, 2811-0, 2817-0, 2823-0, 2829-0, 2835-0, 2841-0, 2847-0, 2853-0, 2859-0, 2865-0, 2871-0, 2877-0, 2883-0, 2889-0, 2895-0, 2901-0, 2907-0, 2913-0, 2919-0, 2925-0, 2931-0, 2937-0, 2943-0, 2949-0, 2955-0, 2961-0, 2967-0, 2973-0, 2979-0, 2985-0, 2991-0, 2997-0, 3003-0, 3009-0, 3015-0, 3021-0, 3027-0, 3033-0, 3039-0, 3045-0, 3051-0, 3057-0, 3063-0, 3069-0, 3075-0, 3081-0, 3087-0, 3093-0, 3099-0, 3105-0, 3111-0, 3117-0, 3123-0, 3129-0, 3135-0, 3141-0, 3147-0, 3153-0, 3159-0, 3165-0, 3171-0, 3177-0, 3183-0, 3189-0, 3195-0, 3201-0, 3207-0, 3213-0, 3219-0, 3225-0, 3231-0, 3237-0, 3243-0, 3249-0, 3255-0, 3261-0, 3267-0, 3273-0, 3279-0, 3285-0, 3291-0, 3297-0, 3303-0, 3309-0, 3315-0, 3321-0, 3327-0, 3333-0, 3339-0, 3345-0, 3351-0, 3357-0, 3363-0, 3369-0, 3375-0, 3381-0, 3387-0, 3393-0, 3399-0, 3405-0, 3411-0, 3417-0, 3423-0, 3429-0, 3435-0, 3441-0, 3447-0, 3453-0, 3459-0, 3465-0, 3471-0, 3477-0, 3483-0, 3489-0, 3495-0, 3501-0, 3507-0, 3513-0, 3519-0, 3525-0, 3531-0, 3537-0, 3543-0, 3549-0, 3555-0, 3561-0, 3567-0, 3573-0, 3579-0, 3585-0, 3591-0, 3597-0, 3603-0, 3609-0, 3615-0, 3621-0, 3627-0, 3633-0, 3639-0, 3645-0, 3651-0, 3657-0, 3663-0, 3669-0, 3675-0, 3681-0, 3687-0, 3693-0, 3699-0, 3705-0, 3711-0, 3717-0, 3723-0, 3729-0, 3735-0, 3741-0, 3747-0, 3753-0, 3759-0, 3765-0, 3771-0, 3777-0, 3783-0, 3789-0, 3795-0, 3801-0, 3807-0, 3813-0, 3819-0, 3825-0, 3831-0, 3837-0, 3843-0, 3849-0, 3855-0, 3861-0, 3867-0, 3873-0, 3879-0, 3885-0, 3891-0, 3897-0, 3903-0, 3909-0, 3915-0, 3921-0, 3927-0, 3933-0, 3939-0, 3945-0, 3951-0, 3957-0, 3963-0, 3969-0, 3975-0, 3981-0, 3987-0, 3993-0, 3999-0, 4005-0, 4011-0, 4017-0, 4023-0, 4029-0, 4035-0, 4041-0, 4047-0, 4053-0, 4059-0, 4065-0, 4071-0, 4077-0, 4083-0, 4089-0, 4095-0, 4101-0, 4107-0, 4113-0, 4119-0, 4125-0, 4131-0, 4137-0, 4143-0, 4149-0, 4155-0, 4161-0, 4167-0, 4173-0, 4179-0, 418

Tsemihah will act like a merchant bank

3 veteran bankers pool their skills

By PINHAS LANDAU
Post Finance Reporter

Old bankers don't fade away, they just go and found another business.

That, at least, seems to be the story of three leading Israeli bankers, two of whom lost their jobs in the wake of the great banking scandals of recent years, while the third retired honorably. None of them, however, lost their acumen, and they are now seeking to put it to use in a new setting.

The three are Mordechai Einhorn, Aharon Meir and Marcel Stein.

Einhorn succeeded Ernst Japhet as chief executive officer of Bank Leumi, after the Bejski report forced Japhet's resignation, but was himself forced to resign early this year, when details of the gigantic salary he had been receiving became known. Meir's tenure as managing director of United Mizrahi Bank was cut short by the Bejski commission's report. Stein, who headed Bank Leumi's correspondent relations department for 12 years, retired unscathed two months ago.

Tsemihah seems near its first major deal. Negotiations are far advanced for the purchase of the Finance and Trade Bank, a subsidiary of United Mizrahi Bank, by an investor group. Rumours have it that Tsemihah itself is a party to the deal, but Einhorn was not prepared yesterday to confirm or deny them.

In any event, the price being discussed is believed to be some \$8 million, but the deal will stand or fall on whether Mizrahi agrees to cover possible claims that might be made against the bank after the sale.

They have pooled their talents — which even their critics never denied — with the capital backing of a group of Israeli businessmen headed by Alfred Akrov, to start a firm offering a range of financial services that the corporate sector has long needed but not received.

Tsemihah Investment House, as the operation is called, was formally established only this September by Einhorn and Akrov, who have joint ownership through a company called Fidelity. It immediately swallowed up the older Tsemihah Securities and Investment firm that Meir had already joined as CEO and that had been involved in portfolio management since its foundation in 1982.

Now the whole outfit has been

reshaped to play some of the roles of merchant banks in Britain and investment banks in the U.S., excepting that it is not licensed to take deposits. Tsemihah's initial capital, of \$300,000, means that it will not be able to take equity stakes in the deals it promotes, as British merchant banks do, but Einhorn regards this as a temporary feature. If the project proceeds well, its capital will be built up, and equity participations will become possible.

The initial stage, therefore, is to concentrate on fee-based business in the corporate sector. The key to the company's activity is the capital market reform that began in earnest this year, which allows companies

Einhorn noted in a recent interview in Tsemihah's office in a modern office block behind Migdal Shalom. "They need to be connected to banks abroad to promote their trading and financial business."

They also need to be advised how to reduce their risk exposure in a world of volatile currencies and interest rates, and Tsemihah offers counselling on how to use instruments such as forwards, futures and options to best advantage.

As Einhorn and Stein know well from their old jobs at Bank Leumi, there is growing interest among leading foreign banks to lend to Israel directly. Tsemihah will offer its services to such banks to find and

use. While the field of portfolio management generally is expanding, to take account of the more numerous and complex investment opportunities opening in local and overseas markets, Meir and Einhorn are pursuing a specific market niche.

This is institutional investors, a sector that can include everything from a university's endowment funds, which are invested for very long periods, to a large company's excess cash flow, which may be available for only a few weeks or months. Within this huge market, Tsemihah has chosen to concentrate on the local bond market, where the reform process has been concentrated.



Mordechai Einhorn (Israel Sun)



Aharon Meir (Israel Sun)



Marcel Stein

direct access to the share and bond markets without the need for Treasury approval of every offering.

Tsemihah will seek to advise companies on how to put together cheaper or more effective financing packages, and then implement its advice by making the connections with potential providers of that financing.

The emphasis will be on international financing packages, which will be Stein's role in the operation. Companies that can tap foreign funds can obtain much cheaper loans than are available at home, but this is difficult because of Bank of Israel restrictions on foreign currency loans.

No special permit is needed, however, for loans of more than 30 months average duration, on condition that the company does not need a guarantee from an Israeli bank to stand behind it. There are a good number of credit-worthy companies in Israel that can meet this condition, but many lack the knowledge of how to go about it.

"Israeli companies have turned into multinationals in many senses,"

screen potential customers, and to keep tabs on them when they become clients of these banks.

The scale of business already done in this field is, in Einhorn's careful definition, "not in odd millions or even tens-of-millions of dollars," but much more — and expanding rapidly. But "because they have no permanent physical presence here, most foreign banks have no access to accurate and ongoing corporate risk assessment, and that is something we can provide."

Meanwhile, Tsemihah Securities is developing its own area of exper-

ted and has made a big impact.

But isn't the reform running out of steam, at least for the coming year?

"Once the reform process got underway, it can't stop," Einhorn contends. "It may not be expanded during 1988, because of the weight of government debt that will require refunding, but that will be a temporary delay. Afterwards it will recommence, because everyone has seen that it's a very positive trend that has brought down interest rates and given the private sector access to investment capital."

Export sector growth lags

The majority of new workers in industry over the past two years have gone to branches serving the local market and not export-oriented firms, according to a study recently released by the Industry and Trade Ministry.

Ministry economists concluded that this pattern stems from the increase in private consumption this year and last.

The economists declared that industrial exports, excluding diamonds, need to grow around 12 per cent a year to set the economy on the right path. Last year, however, such exports only increased 6 per cent.

The major problem facing exporters, according to the economists, is the fluctuation in international exchange.

'Joblessness in Negev is growing'

Post Economic Staff
Histadrut officials this week warned of the growing problem of unemployment in the Negev which is causing the area's young people, especially in Beersheba, to leave the region.

Ben Carmel, the secretary-general of Beersheba's labour council told the Histadrut's employment committee that 7.7 per cent of Beersheba's labour force were unemployed, a total of around 3,000 people. He said that if the numbers of young people leaving the Negev were taken into consideration, this figure would be much higher. Last year, 14,000 young people left the Negev, 5,300 of them from Beersheba.

This year, Carmel continued, more youngsters have left although there are no official figures available at present. He pointed out that Beersheba residents were not work-shy and that the number of unemployed people turning down job offers was minimal.

Despite the seriousness of the current situation, Carmel added, more and more factories in Beersheba are planning to cut back their work-force.

Aliza Tamir, the head of the employment committee, declared that it was high time government institutions and the Histadrut's central committee discussed the situation. Meir Gati, deputy head of the Histadrut's trade union department, called for effective action from the government and not just lip service. He said that the damage caused by young people leaving the Negev was irreparable.

Ya'acov Sa'adon, the committee's secretary, pointed out that the situation has been deteriorating over the past year and that nothing has so far been done to counteract it. He said the problem was of national importance and called for increased pressure on government ministries until some action was taken.

Import tax lifted for meat processors

Meat processors who import beef for export later on are now exempt from the 50 per cent tax imposed on imported frozen beef products, Industry and Trade Ministry officials said yesterday.

The move is an attempt to stimulate Israeli beef exports. The country's meat industry exported around \$48 million worth of goods this year, in the main turkey and chicken products. Most of these went to Europe.

Economic data show

Black Monday yet to yield damage

LONDON (Reuters) — The financial crash of 1987 has so far failed to do much damage to leading industrial economies, government officials, backed by statistics from around the world, are saying.

Last Thursday brought optimistic statements from officials in Japan, West Germany and France to the effect that weak share prices and a dollar at historic lows, while not accelerating generally sluggish expansion, had not yet had a marked negative impact. Britain reported a new drop in unemployment.

The U.S. Commerce Department, meanwhile, said on Wednesday that American firms planned to increase investment in new plants and equipment in 1988 by 7.3 per cent, more than three times the estimated 2.3 per cent rise this year.

"I'm a lot less worried about a recession next year than I was a month ago," says David Wyss, senior vice president of Data Resources Inc., a U.S. economic affairs consultancy.

Economists say the boost in investment plans suggests U.S. industry is shrugging off the effect of the 508-point drop on Wall Street on "Black Monday" October 19.

The positive factors cited by analysts include a prospect of cheaper oil, after the Opec cartel's failure last week to reach more than a makeshift agreement on curbing its surplus production in 1988, and lower interest rates. Many economists say high interest rates after the 1929 Wall Street crash were a leading cause of the 1930s depression.

The Japanese government on Thursday painted a rosy economic picture for 1988, seeing rapid growth in Japan and a falling trade surplus.

The U.S. has particularly urged Japan, and also West Germany, to export less and stoke up consumption so that they buy more of other nations' goods. By taking up the slack in total demand as the U.S. struggles to cut its trade and budget deficits, they would help avert a global recession.

Japanese officials, who declined to be identified, said domestic demand, not exports, would be the driving force behind Japan's economy in 1988. A surge in economic activity would push up imports while the government expected the economy to grow 3.8 per cent in the year starting next April, after rising 3.7 per cent this fiscal year.

The trade surplus is forecast to

drop to \$81 billion in 1988/89, from \$92b. this year, the officials said. The West German Bundesbank said in a report also on Thursday that post-crash markets were volatile. "But a series of factors argue in favour of the view that the negative effects on the West German economy will probably remain within bounds," it said. The German economy is Western Europe's biggest.

The Bundesbank also said economic developments elsewhere, not least in the U.S., had also turned out more positive than was at first feared after "Black Monday."

"As far as private consumption, the most important support of domestic demand, is concerned, these events scarcely give any reason to expect a noticeable restriction of the [West Germany] growth than had originally been expected," it said.

German expansion is, however, slower than the U.S. and others would prefer, predicted at less than 2 per cent for early 1988.

In Paris, French Finance Minister Edouard Balladur said on Thursday there was evidence France's economy was buoyant despite the stock market crash. In November, France's seasonally adjusted trade deficit was just \$130 million, the best performance since February, and a big improvement on \$890m. the previous month.

"An improvement is underway. We appear to be heading in the right direction," Balladur told a news briefing.

Balladur said French exports in the past two months had been running close to 10 per cent above their average level for the first half of this year, with consumer goods and capital goods performing particularly well.

France's National Statistics Institute (Insee) is predicting 3 to 4 per cent growth in industrial investment this year in volume terms and a further increase in 1988. At the same time, the gross domestic product grew 1.1 per cent in the third quarter of this year after 1 per cent growth in the second, Balladur said.

In the last week, Britain reported a record pre-Christmas spending boom and a spate of takeover bids and stake-building in London's stock market suggested that several companies now felt the crash had bottomed out.

Britain on Thursday also said its unemployment fell to 9.5 per cent in November from October's 9.8 per cent.

'West Germany can't boost world economy'

BONN (AFP) — The capacity of West Germany to support the world economy must not be overestimated, Chancellor Helmut Kohl said in a newspaper interview published here yesterday.

Responding to recent pressing calls from Bonn's partners to stimulate its economy, Kohl conceded that his country had "a special responsibility" as one of the world's leading economies. But, he told the daily *Die Welt*, "we should not overestimate our capacities, despite good economic figures."

On Friday, French Finance Minister Edouard Balladur said West Germany "has its share of responsibility in current [economic] imbalances" and "must be prepared to make the efforts needed" to support European economic growth.



CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- A revolutionary article brought into the market (5)
 - South American flier making a sensational headline (8)
 - The final round of course (4,3)
 - A party where there is plenty of milk and guinea-fowl (7)
 - How juice might fall from a peeled ripe orange (4)
 - A case that can never be completely closed (5)
 - City that boasts a famous listed building (4)
 - A grievous complaint concealed by gravity (7,7)
 - It greatly reduces the value of money (14)
 - Enemy agent with weak eyesight (4)
 - A beefy youngster to guide (5)
 - A branch line round-up in Southern Region (4)
 - Merry monarch getting support in for a higher education centre (7)
 - Small farmer requiring credit more frequently (7)
 - A voluntary player for the services, maybe (8)
 - Thought of getting employment in Maryland? (5)
- DOWN**
- A composer who recollects old times (8)
 - Even more out of practice after Rugby Union tries are misplayed (7)
 - Novices follow it round to cultivate the soil (4)
 - Worst kind of crime a Londoner can commit? (7,7)
 - Stake raised for a hot-headed mount (4)
 - Cereal food that is swallowed by errant moths (7)
 - A Spanish wine jar I love inordinately (5)
 - No work gets done when she takes the class (5,8)
 - Socially one left right out? (5)
 - Ready to be drawn at the local? (2,3)
 - Find out about unusual sort of rays (5-3)
 - Noel's blazer (4-3)
 - Charges items up incorrectly (7)
 - Ostentatiously virile Communist chairman ringing an honoured companion (5)
 - Not keen on giving the average? (4)
 - A class of regressive Marines (4)

Yesterday's Solution

CONSTRUCTION
OPINION
NINTENDO
SQUAD
I O R N S L S O
DENTIST
EVERTON
RUSTIER
TENDRIL
A E E H T E I
I T S U R F A T
O U T G R E N
N I G A S E
S C H O O L M A S T E R

ACROSS: 1 Torque, 4 Dover, 8 Crass, 9 Tantrum, 10 Imitate, 11 Band, 12 Raw, 14 Peel, 15 Ally, 18 Err, 21 Idea, 23 Outcome, 25 Chablis, 26 Fleet, 27 Eaten, 28 Glossy. **DOWN:** 1 Tossin, 2 Koules, 3 Unstable, 4 Deny, 5 Verse, 6 Kennedy, 7 Uter, 13 Wasteful, 16 Lioness, 17 Circle, 19 Roast, 20 Sentry, 22 Exact, 24 Plan.

QUICK CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- Conditional tense of 'will' (5)
 - Sculptures (8)
 - Light request (5)
 - Given back (8)
 - Quick-witted (5)
 - Girl's name (3)
 - Bill (6)
 - Upper house (6)
 - Chart (3)
 - Intense pain (5)
 - Aggravable (8)
 - Shun (5)
 - Aspiration (8)
 - Drawbacks (5)
- DOWN**
- Frighten (5)
 - Iron (5)
 - Infant (5)
 - Concurred (6)
 - Decorative (8)
 - Tear (8)
 - Pardoned (8)
 - Status (8)
 - Branch (3)
 - Venomous snake (3)
 - Self-possession (6)
 - Fundamental (5)
 - Street urchin (5)
 - Puddle (5)

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Jerusalem: Bakshi, Mahane Yehuda, 222761; Balsam, Shalom Eddin, 272515; Shuruf, Shuruf Road, 870106; Der Akkava, Herod's Gate, 282058.
Tel Aviv: Bass, 66 Frishman, 237328; Kupat Holim Meuhedet, 15 Sprinzak, 285200.
Be'er-sheva-Kfar Sava: Kupat Holim Meuhedet, Ben Gamla, Hod Hasharon, Netanya: Forst, 76 Patah Tikva, 340867; Krayot area: Motzkin, 64 Sderot Hasharon, Krayot Motzkin, 737243.
Haifa: Hanita, 22 Hanita, 221905.

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Tel Aviv: Rosh Hashana (pediatrics), Ichilov (internal, surgery).
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Carmiel 588555 Netanya 23333
Dan Region 781111 Patah Tikva 3423111
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Haifa 51223 Safed 53033
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Rape Crisis Centre (24 hours), for help call Tel Aviv, 234819, Jerusalem - 245554, and Haifa 650111.

THE JERUSALEM POST
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Once again The Jerusalem Post Forsake Me Not fund for the needy elderly is organizing its winter campaign. Funds are desperately needed for heaters, heating oil, blankets, pyjamas, mattresses and warm clothing.

This winter strike a light for the needy elderly.

Contributions can be mailed directly to The Jerusalem Post, P.O. Box 81, Jerusalem 91000, Israel.

All funds are allocated in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

Secret subsidies deal feared

By JEFF BLACK
and AVI TEMKIN
Jerusalem Post Reporters

Finance Minister Moshe Nissim and Histadrut Secretary-General Yisrael Kessar will meet today to discuss Nissim's proposal to cut immediately public transport and basic foodstuffs subsidies amid growing concerns in some quarters of the Histadrut that the two are working out a secret package deal.

Likud MK Ya'acov Shamai, the leader of the Histadrut's Likud faction, told *The Jerusalem Post* that he feared that Nissim and Kessar were going behind the Histadrut's back and negotiating such a deal. Kessar has denied such a deal is in the making.

Shamai fiercely attacked Kessar earlier this week for selling the workers down the river during private discussions with the finance minister. Shamai claimed that Kessar was caught in a conflict of interest because of his dual role as head

of Hevrat Ha'ovdim, the giant Histadrut holding company, and as the official in charge of trade union activities. The Histadrut's health fund, Kupat Holim is also in serious financial difficulties and it is no secret that Kessar wants the government to dramatically increase its aid to this ailing institution.

At the Histadrut's executive committee meeting on Sunday, Shamai called for the establishment of a small negotiating team to represent the Histadrut in talks with the finance minister in place of the Kessar-Nissim meetings.

Kessar denied Shamai's claims that he had been too soft on Nissim, saying that he would fight the finance minister's refusal to grant any wage increases next year.

In a related development, Nissim was yesterday sharply attacked by Agriculture Minister Arye Nehamkin and Minister Without Portfolio Yitzhak Moda'i said yesterday they would not vote for the budget at the

cabinet meeting next Sunday. Nehamkin demanded an additional NIS 150 million for his ministry's budget. He said the sum was needed to solve the moshav financial crisis. Nehamkin called the Treasury's budget department "children who do not understand anything about how to manage the economy."

Moda'i, who held the finance portfolio before Nissim, said he had originally intended to vote for the budget but had now decided not to attend the cabinet meeting that would decide on the proposed budget. He accused the finance minister of making concessions that had completely changed the nature of the original proposal.

Nissim, however, did garner support from the Bank of Israel's Advisory Committee, which released a statement calling the government to slash the state budget by even larger sums than demanded by the Treasury.

Wages, output jump in first nine months

BY AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporter

Wages in industry rose 9 per cent in real terms in the first nine months of the year, compared with the same period last year, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced yesterday.

The figures released by the bureau seemed to confirm the Bank of Israel position that industrialists had granted high wage hikes in the first months of the year. The central bank has claimed that industrialists granted the rises hoping the shekel would be devalued, despite the stable policy of Finance Minister Moshe Nissim and Governor of the Bank of Israel Michael Bruno.

The industrialists have been demanding a devaluation during the last two months.

The bureau figures showed industrial output rose 2 per cent in the

third quarter of the year, compared with the previous three months. The bureau added that industrial output had increased 6 per cent in the first three quarters of the year, compared with the same period in 1986.

Large increases, of 10 per cent or more, were registered in the food industries, in the apparel sector, paper and products, rubber and plastic goods, and chemicals. At the other end of the scale, there was an 8 per cent drop in the output of the transport equipment industry and of 3 per cent in the electronics industry and the textile sector.

The number of workers employed in industry rose by 8,000 from the first nine months of 1986, an increase of 2.2 per cent in industrial employment in the first three quarters of the year while the number of jobs worked rose only 1 per cent.

High noon for oil firms

By LISA PERLMAN
The Energy Ministry will go ahead with its original fuel-industry reform plan, if the three oil companies refuse to accept a last-ditch compromise plan offered them last week, the ministry's director-general warned yesterday.

Nathan Arad told *The Jerusalem Post* the ministry was prepared for a courtroom showdown in the event the compromise was rejected. He said it was likely the three companies - Paz Oil Co., Sonol Ltd. and Delek Fuel Corp. - would take the ministry to court if the plan was forced on them.

Nevertheless, he expressed optimism about the outcome of the proposal, saying: "As it stands today, it looks like an agreement will be reached."

Energy Minister Moshe Shahal proposed the compromise last week in an attempt to end the oil companies' efforts to block the far-reaching deregulation plan.

"If we lose that, one of the cornerstones of the plan will be knocked out," Arad said. "But, it is better to meet our goals only partially than to undermine the cooperation that has existed for years between us."

Tamman to build 3-star hotels

Sharir sees tourism doubling in decade

By GREER FAY CASHMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HERZLIYA - Israel will double both its intake of foreign tourists and its foreign currency revenues from tourism within the next decade, Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir predicted yesterday at a press conference here.

Leon Tamman, the owner of the Daniel Tower Hotel, used the occasion to disclose plans to invest in a chain of three-star hotels in Jerusalem, Eilat and Tiberias, saying the country lacked low-cost facilities. Each of the hotels will have 100 rooms and will be constructed at a cost of \$3 million-\$4m. apiece.

Sharir made his forecast while announcing a record figure for incoming tourism this year. One-and-a-half million visitors came to Israel from abroad this year, 5 per cent more than the previous record set in 1985.

This year witnessed a quick recovery from 1986's big slump, when fear of terrorism drove the number of arrivals down to 1.2 million.

This year's figures represent a 27 per cent increase from 1986, while income from tourism grew 14 per cent from 1985 and 29 per cent from 1986, to \$1.25 billion.

Speaking at a press conference at the Daniel Tower Hotel, Sharir reiterated his contention that the current unrest was not hurting the tourism industry. The number of cancellations has only been slight, he said.

Sharir lamented that the government's improved attitude towards tourism was not reflected in the budgetary allocation. He also regretted that all his efforts to abolish the travel tax had stalled. There was talk, he said, of increasing the travel tax to help subsidize health and education.

Bankers fight bid to cut their say on central bank advisory panel

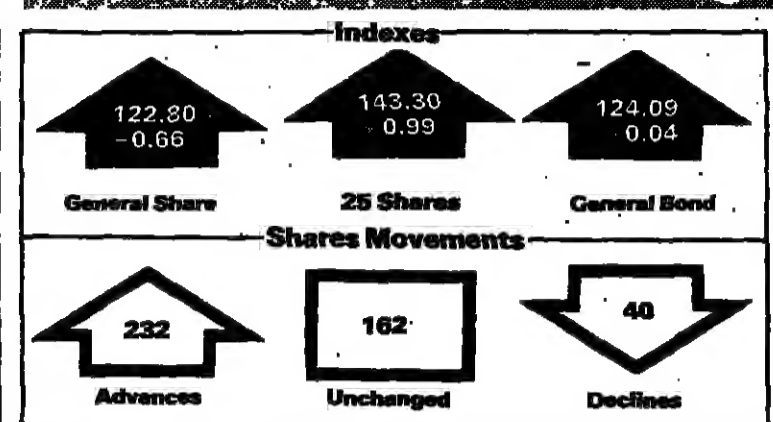
BY AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporter

Representatives of the commercial banks and the Bank of Israel yesterday tried to dissuade the Knesset Finance Committee from approving a bill that would halve the

numbers of bankers in the central bank's advisory committee. A private bill tabled by MKs Haim Ramon and Dedi Zucker seeks to set the number of bankers among the nine members of the Advisory Committee at a maximum of two, compared to the current four.

Ramon and Zucker, with the support of MK Yoram Aridor, said during the meeting of the Finance Committee that the large number of bankers in the Advisory Committee prevents representation of other sectors of the economy, such as the industrialists.

Te Aviv Stock Exchange



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Rudderless in the storm

THE furies of the political status quo exploded yesterday upon Israel's bunkered, paralytic government, which has made immobilism its ideology.

In an unprecedented show of solidarity and violence, Israel's Arab community joined the Palestinians in the territories in venting nationalist frustration and resistance.

In acting as they did, Israel's Arab citizens were skirting the thin edge of rebelliousness against an established authority in which they, unlike the occupied Palestinians, themselves have a share. It is a dangerous illusion on their part to believe, as a young man from Nazareth put it on Kol Yisrael yesterday, that being 700,000 strong, they can do "everything" for their people, the Palestinians.

On the contrary, if they cross the bounds of legitimate civil protest, they will do nothing for their kin across the Green Line and imperil themselves. For by jettisoning the democratic process, they will only mobilize the counter forces that rush to meet such threat.

In the past, Israel's Arab community has always understood these limits. Presumably, that sensibility remains intact.

Yet it has been stretched to new breaking point, by a government that has nothing to say and nothing to offer for the wounded national sentiment of over 2 million Arabs under its jurisdiction.

For the Likud half of this government, time is never ripe for any meaningful move designed to make possible genuine political coexistence of Jews and Arabs in this Land. Somehow the inertia of the status quo is supposed to be the guarantee of its own future.

And the other, Alignment, half of this government which supposedly rejects the self-sealing security of the status quo has taken refuge in impotence. While disorder ruled in Gaza, spilled over into Judea, Samaria and now Israel itself, its voice has not been heard. With its principal leaders abroad, this party abdicated its claim to a distinctive message and distinctive identity, at a time of crisis.

Little wonder that the spectre of an incurably do-nothing government, unable to rise above even ineffective routines of riot control, let alone political bankruptcy, has brought upon the country a new degree of international censure and dismay. Imperturbability, when combined with strength and political wisdom, is a mark of leadership in times of crisis. But when imperturbability is grounded on nothing more than an incapacity to perceive the dimensions of crisis, it is the very opposite of leadership. And, unfortunately, it is such emptiness which the government, in all its parts, has displayed during this past fortnight.

RIOTS

(Continued from Page One)

passed without major damage or injury. Perhaps the most serious confrontation occurred at the Issawiya village in the shadow of the Hebrew University and Hadassah Hospital on Mount Scopus. Arab youths threw stones at cars and policemen, and also set up enormous roadblocks.

At least two Arab men had broken bones and one Arab woman was taken to the intensive care unit of Mokassed hospital. Several policemen were lightly injured.

An estimated 15 village youths were arrested. The windows of a number of houses had been smashed.

Issawiya residents said that the police broke windows of their houses with clubs, shot a dog in the street, broke into houses and beat up the men and women inside. Police spokesman Rafi Levy responded that the police entered the houses to arrest stone-throwers who had taken refuge in their neighbours' homes.

Nama Hassan Mahmoud, a 24-year-old Issawiya resident, was in the intensive care unit of Mokassed Hospital, suffering from a kidney injury and fractured ribs. Her mother, Zazam Mahmoud, said that her daughter had been hit by a tear gas canister that a policeman fired straight at her.

Levy said that he was not aware of such an incident.

At least three Israeli drivers were lightly injured by stones thrown at their cars. About 600 police and Border Police patrolled the capital yesterday - almost half of the 1,300 police mobilized nationwide to handle yesterday's general strike in the Arab sector.

A total of 28 Palestinians were arrested yesterday in separate incidents throughout the city and its environs, in addition to the 60 arrested on Saturday and Sunday, police said.

Schools and shops were closed in East Jerusalem yesterday.

Stone-throwing was reported in some of the usual trouble spots: Anata, just north of Jerusalem; A-tur on the Mount of Olives; the Mishkenot Haro'im restaurant beside the Arab village of Jebel Mukaber; Azariya village near the headquarters of the police's Southern Command; the Shuafat road in the north part of the city.

Not only cars were targets yesterday. Some youths threw stones at the train travelling to Jerusalem as it passed through the area near Beit Safafa.

Despite indications of the first stirrings of massive, non-violent protest in the Gaza Strip, at least 10 Palestinians were shot, one critically, yesterday when IDF troops

opened fire following a petrol bomb attack.

The afternoon shooting incident took place in the Jebalya refugee camp in northern Gaza. Palestinian sources maintain that 12 persons were hospitalized yesterday in Gaza for gunshot wounds suffered in the Jebalya incident, with three of them in serious condition.

A number of petrol bombs were hurled at an IDF patrol outmanned by a large crowd of demonstrators. According to army sources, the soldiers opened fire when they saw no other means of escape. Ten people were wounded by gunfire in the Jebalya incident, the army contended, adding that two IDF soldiers were hit by rocks and evacuated to Barzilai Hospital in Ashkelon, where they are in fair condition.

One of the wounded was airlifted to Beersheba's Soroka Hospital, where doctors described his condition last night as "extremely critical."

Earlier in the day, an eerie quiet prevailed in Gaza Strip urban centres, the result of a commercial strike so universal that bearded-up IDF foot patrols and vehicle convoys were virtually the only signs of life.

At the Erez and Nahal Oz checkpoints, normally congested with tens of thousands of Gazans commuting to and from jobs in Israel, soldiers drank coffee and stared at the empty highway.

While minor demonstrations were held in Dir el-Balah, Gaza City, Rafiah, and Khan-Yunis, the central protest yesterday was a disciplined, non-violent march by thousands of men and women of the Nuseirat refugee camp in central Gaza.

As an estimated 250 soldiers watched, the marchers carried a symbolic coffin draped with a Palestinian flag toward the neighbouring camp of el-Bureij. Marchers chanted slogans, including "We are the commanders of Palestine - where are you, Kahane?"

After the march began to cross the main highway separating the two camps, troops moved in to clear the road. But the demonstrators, held in check by youths acting as crowd marshals, spread out to line both sides of the road for hundreds of metres. Though tear gas was used by security forces at one point, the hour-long march ended peacefully.

Last night, security sources here, expressing general satisfaction with yesterday's course of events, privately expressed anxiety over a scheduled visit by the Knesset Interior Committee later today.

Committee chairman Dov Shilansky yesterday rejected pleas by the Prime Minister's office and by the Defense Ministry to postpone the tour.

THE IRISH Republican Army came into being long before the PLO, which it closely resembles. Ireland was traditionally divided into four provinces: Ulster, Munster, Leinster and Connaught. When Irish Home Rule was introduced in 1920, Ulster seceded - and that is when the troubles began.

Striking similarities are found with Israel's situation. Ulster is inhabited by descendants of Protestant settlers from the British mainland. They form a majority in Ulster but a minority in Gaelic Ireland; therefore, the IRA want a united Ireland.

The Jews are a majority in Israel but only a slender majority which could become a minority before long in Palestine as a whole. They are decidedly a minority in the entire Middle East. Therefore, the PLO want a united Palestine.

The difference is that the Protestants, fighting for their separate existence, belong to a bigger nation which gives them its backing: the United Kingdom; and the Catholic Irish see Britain as their Goliath. In Israel it is the other way round. The Palestinians belong to a bigger nation, the Arabs, and the embattled Jews, who have no other refuge than in Israel, see them as the Goliath.

NEVERTHELESS, the two small countries, Northern Ireland and Israel, face much the same problems, and parallels abound. The British refuse to talk to the IRA, just as Israel refuses to talk to the PLO. The extreme left disagree: Ken Livingstone in London views the IRA as negotiating partners, and Matti Peled in Jerusalem sees Yasser Arafat's organization in the same light.

The army tries to keep law and order - on both sides. When the Northern Ireland conflict flared up in August 1969, British forces found themselves protecting the Catholics against the Protestants and doing it better than the IRA, whom the Irish

THE RESUMPTION of last year's witch-hunt of cotton farmers finds encouragement in an otherwise commendable article (D'vora Ben Shaul, *The Jerusalem Post*, October 20). The assertion that "cotton utterly destroys the soil where it is grown" is unfounded. Use of soil nutrients and control of weeds necessitate crop rotation of all field crops, but many crops require more frequent rotation than cotton.

The article claims that cotton "is also the biggest water exploiter of all." In fact, only about 16 per cent of the water used for agriculture this year was for cotton. And since about 60 per cent of that came from recycled water sources, including recycled sewage water, cotton provides a positive alternative to polluting the sea.

READERS' LETTERS

ORTHODOX PEACENIKS

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir, - In recent months, two right-wing English-language publications in Israel have published articles aimed at discrediting the Oz veShalom-Netivot Shalom religious Zionist peace movement. The pro-Kahane *Jerusalem Times* and the Tehiya-oriented *Counterpoint* have made us out to be "irreverent" toward the halachic tradition and harbouring "ideological sympathy for Arab terrorism," in the words of the *Counterpoint* article.

Both publications have resorted to ad hominem innuendoes (including references to our contacts with non-Jews, which somehow make our *Yiddishkeit* suspect in their eyes), as well as to tendentiously selective quotations from our literature or from news stories about us.

The *Counterpoint* article went so far as to assert that "the high casualty rate suffered by Heder yeshiva students (in the Lebanon war) constituted a windfall for Orthodox peaceniks, as the morale of some of these soldiers dropped." This ugly, shameless insinuation comes from

HARD OF HEARING

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir, - I just finished reading your supplement of December 15, *The Golden Years*, and was delighted with the diversity of information about needs and services for the elderly - the day-care alternative, guardianship, financial advice, AACI outreach, etc.

As a hard-of-hearing counsellor for the hearing impaired (HI), I naturally scanned for helpful information for that part of the elderly population. Except for ads for hearing aids and other assistive devices for the HI, I found nothing. And yet conservatively speaking, one out of two people over 60 is hearing-impaired.

Many difficulties of the elderly mentioned in the supplement can often be directly or indirectly related to not hearing well - depression, isolation, argumentativeness, dependency, to name just a few. A common complaint is: "grandmother doesn't go out anymore, even to the grocery. She sits in her rocking chair in a world of her own." Well, how can she participate in the world if she can't communicate with its inhabitants? Over the phone, at a simha, in a crowded, noisy place, or often even one-to-one.

There are many listening strategies and electronic devices that can be used to improve this condition for the elderly. One of the most important is learning to use the hearing aid more effectively. What we

labelled bitterly "I Ran Away." British soldiers were welcomed with cups of tea and friendliness.

But keeping law and order between hostile parties is a thankless task. The Catholics retorted by hitting the Protestants back with equal violence. The army had to use curfews and tear gas and house searches, which aroused Catholic hostility. Tear gas, it appears, is particularly infuriating. Soldiers were exasperated by the bitter antagonism they had aroused into dealing blows and insults, which made things worse.

Exacerbation of the struggle strengthened the extremists. The Provisionals broke away from the IRA to form a more terrorist-minded organization, just as Ahmed Jibril's PFLP broke away from Fatah. At the other extreme, the Rev. Ian Paisley - an Irish version of Meir Kahane - attracted increased support.

THE EXECUTIVE POWER of the authorities can be shaved down to a minimum in a democratic society when the people are law-abiding but when they are not, the prerogatives of the police have to be toughened in the interests of public safety. IRA teams in cars searching the narrow streets of Belfast for British soldiers to kill were appraised of any group entering the district by vigilant housewives clattering dustbin lids in warning.

On the recommendation of Britain's Lord Diplock, a former top-ranking judge (comparable with Israel's Moshe Landau), arrests could be made on the word of a soldier; confessions, admissible unless tor-

The Irish troubles...the Gaza troubles

The Ulster parallel

David Krivine

ture was proved, were sufficient for sentencing; trials took place without jury (because juries could be intimidated); and the onus of proof over possession of weapons lay on the defendant.

The IRA opposed the Dublin as well as the Belfast governments, both of which (in its opinion) betrayed the Irish cause. Eire thus had its own laws against the IRA. It increased the penalty for membership from two to seven years' imprisonment, and the word of a senior police officer was enough to secure conviction. (One can almost hear cheers in the ranks of Israel's Shin Bet.)

Despite a complete distaste for the methods of the IRA, the Dublin administration could not altogether dissociate itself from it. (Egypt entertains similarly ambivalent feelings towards the PLO.) Nevertheless, Prime Minister Garret Fitzgerald was firm in rejecting violence against the people of Ireland of whatever persuasion, saying: "The future of the island will be built by the ballot-box and the ballot-box alone."

Indeed, there was a rapprochement with London, culminating in the Anglo-Irish Agreement of 1984 which set up an Intergovernmental Conference giving Dublin a consultative voice in Northern Irish affairs.

The IRA could not tolerate that (any more than the PLO can tolerate Egypt's peace treaty with Israel). The Protestants of Northern Ire-

land are equally outraged by the agreement, if for opposite reasons - just as supporters of the Likud in Israel would be outraged if a Labour government were to repartition Palestine in a bid for peace.

THE IRA has managed to do a great deal more damage than the PLO. An illuminating book, *The Provisional IRA* by Patrick Bishop and Eamonn Mallie (published by Heinemann in London), reminds us of the cruelties that have been perpetrated. Pubs, discos, shops, restaurants, railway stations were blown up indiscriminately, killing or wounding innocent civilians. Young British soldiers in a bar were plied with drinks by girls and inveigled to a "party" only to be shot through the head on the way. The IDF and Shin Bet surely deserve credit for the more peaceful situation that prevails among the Jewish population here.

Provisionals were hard with themselves also. They were ready to sacrifice their lives for the cause, showing extraordinary stoicism. Rather than give in to the British gaolers, who wanted to treat them as common criminals instead of prisoners of war, persons in detention let themselves be confined to bare cells with no sanitary facilities. Excreta piled up and they smeared it on the walls: it was called the "dirty protest."

Then came the hunger strikes. Bobby Sands, elected to the Westminster parliament while imprisoned, fasted for 65 days till he died - and there was no lack of candidates to follow him.

Why this passion? What ideal could justify such fanatic self-torture? Irish independence had been achieved. The Free State existed and flourished in 26 counties, annexing the remaining six was surely not a life-and-death matter. The IRA were certainly enthusiastic for a united Ireland but what drove them mad, I suspect, is the antagonisms which grew out of the conflict itself.

Victims of massacres cannot forgive. Vengeance is a powerful motivating force among humans and each reprisal creates a new spiral of hate. It is impossible to recall who started as each side blames the other.

So it goes in Israel, when once or twice, after a PLO knifeing, gangs of Jewish youth roamed the streets in search of Arabs to beat up. All they did was reconcile the Arabs to the knifeing, laying the ground for the next act of anti-Jewish violence.

A solution can be achieved, but only if both sides want it. The PLO cannot drive the Israelis out of Palestine by terrorist methods; nor can Shamir's government pacify the occupied territories by the sheer application of force, even if Sharon is in charge. The Israeli deadlock has existed for 20 years, with no solution in sight.

Ireland's deadlock has existed for nearly 70 years. Still, the book concludes, the IRA will not give up. "It is possible to predict with gloomy confidence that the troubles will continue for the foreseeable future"; nor will the British leave ("The British presence in Ireland is an ineradicable tradition"). Bloodshed will cease only when both sides recognize that their demands must be modified; in other words, when they are ready for a negotiated settlement.

The writer is a member of The Jerusalem Post editorial staff.

In defence of a comeback crop

Quit picking on cotton

Sam Roth

The author asserts that "we cannot afford this crop. We can make dollars in other ways." This year, cotton will realize about \$120 million alone in exports, and another \$18m. in cotton seed which is used as cattle feed and is a source of oil.

Each crop farmer receives an allotment of water, an amount which has been reduced by about 15 per cent over the past two years, due to the water shortage. The farmer con-

siders the various uses of this water and decides which crops to plant to maximize his profits. Growing cotton does not increase his water allotment. If he decides to grow cotton, then it's because he believes this will bring him maximum benefits. Who can decide better than the farmer

himself? Are we in need of Big Brother?

COTTON is a target for those who believe that less water should be used. Cotton is highly visible in any part of the country and was singled out by officials and "experts" because of a temporary drop in world cotton prices. Since then, prices have returned to their normal level. Any export business must guaran-

tee stable supplies of its products in order to maintain the confidence of its customers.

Over the years the cotton industry has invested millions of dollars in equipment, research and training, none of which can be readily applied to other crops. Thus, the cotton farmers elected to continue growing cotton and have not been disappointed.

I suggest that the question of how much water should be used per year be left to experts who are acquainted with all of the facts. I also propose that cotton no longer be used as a scapegoat in the public debate on water. Leave the farming decisions to the farmer.

The writer is chief economist of the Cotton Production and Marketing Board.

JEWISH-CHRISTIAN DIALOGUE

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir, - What angered and disappointed me in reading Mr. Shapiro's article of November 27 on Jewish-Christian dialogue was not what Cardinal Ratzinger had to say, rather that what Mr. Shapiro had to report didn't appear on the opinion page where it belongs.

The only breath of fresh air were the quotes by Cardinal Ratzinger and Dr. Werblowsky. What both of these men, Jew and Christian alike, had to say was nothing but a clear statement of their basic theological beliefs - those held by Jew and Christian everywhere; beliefs that Christians, as Dr. Werblowsky said, are "entitled to." There's nothing new here except Mr. Shapiro's attempt to politicize it. He is not serving here as a reporter, but as a mouthpiece for IJIC.

Such attempts do little to foster true dialogue. It is only after a basic statement of the ways we differ that we arrive at the level of agreement. In this way, Cardinal Ratzinger's remarks can be seen as providing the foundation for interfaith dialogue. Such remarks when properly understood are not a set-back for Jewish-Christian dialogue, but rather a stepping stone. A place to begin.

PATRICK GEYER

Jerusalem.

YESHIVA STUDENTS

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir, - I am saddened by Rabbi Porush's statement (December 11) that yeshiva students would leave Israel rather than fulfill their obligations to defend the land. Is this threat of *yerida* a moral decision, or is it simply an expression of *galut* mentality? Who will defend Israel? The Jews of the Diaspora? Obviously not. Only the Jews who take advantage of the privilege of living in the Holy Land will defend it. And every student of Tora knows what a

privilege it is to live in Israel. Learning Tora is a great *mizva*. But to use the Tora as an excuse to avoid the basic duty of defending the land is immoral. When yeshiva students continue learning Tora before, during, and after their (undelayed) army service, they will have themselves self-respect and others' respect, which will make them eligible to become the true Tora leaders that Israel so sorely needs.

Dr. GOLDA WERMAN

Jerusalem.

MAILER AND REINCARNATION

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir, - I am sorry to disappoint Mr. Gutman-Locks (Letters - December 12). Reincarnation is not part of normative halachic Judaism. The fact that, in his prayerbook, not mine, a prayer has crept in that refers to reincarnation is simply the influence of popular folk and kabbalistic lore, assisted by the printers.

But there are plenty of strictly observant Jews who believe, like millions of other folk all over the world, in astrology, reincarnation, demons, the magic power of amulets and the like. Plenty of examples can

be found in the Talmud, medieval and modern rabbinic luminaries and in some prayerbooks, but that still does not qualify these beliefs as Judaism. Popular superstition has always been stronger than an intelligent understanding of our ancestral way of life.

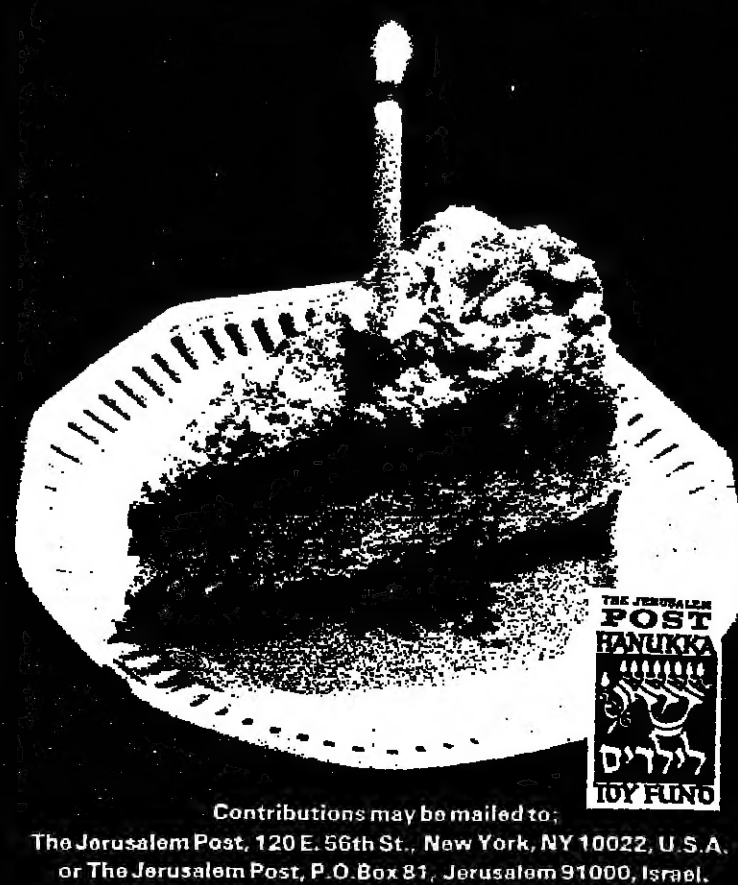
But since Judaism is a system of actions (*mizvot*) rather than beliefs, Norman Mailer has only to practise his Judaism and the reincarnation will take care of itself.

ARYEH NEWMAN

Jerusalem.

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